



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL  
OF GOVERNMENTS**

**MEETING NOTES**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016  
12:00 NOON

PLUMMER PARK  
7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD.  
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Beverly Hills:*** Mayor Julian Gold, M.D. Staff: Mahdi Aluzri, Cheryl Friedling, Aaron Kunz
- Culver City:*** Councilmember Jeffrey Cooper, Councilmember Jim B. Clarke. Staff: John Nachbar, Charles Herbertson, Shelly Wolfberg.
- Santa Monica:*** Councilmember Kevin McKeown. Staff: Danielle Noble.
- West Hollywood:*** Mayor Pro Tempore Lauren Meister. Staff: Hernan Molina, Bianca Siegl, David Wilson.
- City of LA:*** District 5 Staff: Jay Greenstein. Chief Legislative Analyst Office: Chris Concepción
- WSCCOG:*** Executive Directors Cecilia Estolano, Katherine Perez-Estolano. Staff: Winnie Fong. Counsel: Lauren Langer
- Other Attendees:*** Josh Kurpies (50<sup>th</sup> Assembly District); Lila Kalaf (26<sup>th</sup> Senate District) Huasha Liu and Javiera Cartagena (SCAG);

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councilmember Jeffrey Cooper (WSCCOG Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.

**2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS**

Councilmember Jeffrey Cooper (WSCCOG Chair) welcomed the board to the meeting and initiated self-introductions by the attendees.

**3. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 19, 2015 DRAFT MINUTES MEETING**

A motion was made by Councilmember Kevin McKeown (WSCCOG Vice Chair) and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lauren Meister to approve the November 19, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. WSCCOG APPOINTEE TO THE SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION (SMBRC)**

Cecilia Estolano informed the board that the COG received one letter of interest for the SMBRC appointment, which was from Councilmember Kevin McKeown (City of Santa

Monica). Ms. Estolano also added that the appointee is allowed to appoint two alternates. Councilmember Cooper suggested Councilmember Megan Sahli-Wells be considered as one of the alternates. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lauren Meister and seconded by Mayor Julian Gold to appoint Councilmember McKeown as the WSCCOG representative to the SMBRC. The motion passed unanimously.

## **5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Katherine Perez-Estolano updated the board on the status of WSCCOG activities, projects and other items of interest.

### **(A) RTP/SCS Update**

Huasha Liu, the Director of Land Use and Environmental Planning, presented a video presentation on the RTP/SCS update. Ms. Liu announced that the comment period for the draft RTP/SCS closed on February 1<sup>st</sup> and covered the timeline of next steps. Councilmember McKeown provided a comment and encouraged SCAG to consider a stronger vision for future rail. Councilmember Jim B. Clarke inquired about SCAG's projection of passengers to LAX. Councilmember Clarke also requested a copy of the video presentation.

## **6. STRATEGIC INITIATIVES UPDATE**

### **(A) Transportation/Mobility**

#### **I. Potential Ballot Measure Update**

Ms. Perez-Estolano provided an update on the status of the COG's proposed revision to Metro's subregional input of project priorities. Ms. Estolano presented a copy of an email correspondence from Metro Managing Executive Officer of Regional Transportation Planning David Yale in response to WSCCOG's proposed revisions. Metro will include the COG's unconstrained list of transportation priorities in the next staff report to the Metro Board in March 2016, which will include Metro staff recommendations and a side-by-side explanation of the differences between the COG's and Metro's recommendations.

### **(B) Tourism/Economic Development**

#### **I. Minimum Wage**

Cecilia Estolano introduced the agenda item on minimum wage and invited Councilmember Kevin McKeown to provide a brief overview of Santa Monica's adopted minimum wage ordinance on January 12. The board members inquired about the Chamber of Commerce's position on the ordinance, as well as the wage theft issue. Ms. Estolano informed the board that Silicon Valley is taking a regional approach in addressing minimum wage to avoid a patchwork of minimum wage ordinances resulting in inequality. Mayor Pro Tem Meister inquired if any of the other cities have commissioned a report on minimum wage. Mayor Julian Gold, M.D. responded that Beverly Hills Chamber have conducted two surveys on minimum wage. Ms. Estolano added that the COG's staff can vet the studies and provide feedback to the board and city staff. Councilmember Jeff Cooper commented that he was

interested in looking at outcomes of other cities. Dr. Gold added that the city is exploring the impact of minimum wage for city employees and the city. Beverly Hills City Manager Mahdi Aluzri also stated the potential issue of minimum wage impacts on contract with vendors. Councilmember McKeown offered support from his city staff to share with other cities about Santa Monica's efforts and minimum wage ordinance. Dr. Gold inquired about COG's advocacy at the state level. Katherine Perez-Estolano mentioned about a current Senate Bill on minimum wage introduced by Senator Leno and invited staff from Assemblymember Bloom and Senator Allen's office to provide the board with updates. Ms. Estolano suggested convening a working group of city staff to discuss policies and strategies, review case studies and minimum wage reports. The board unanimously agreed.

### **(C) Sustainability**

#### **I. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Update**

Cecilia Estolano provided a brief update on CCA and informed the board that the COG staff will continue to participate in CCA meetings hosted by the County.

#### **II. Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Grant Program**

Cecilia Estolano announced that the Strategic Growth Council will be releasing the AHSC notice of funding availability soon. Ms. Estolano also informed the board that ELP Advisors is working with SCAG in providing technical assistance to SCAG cities and that the staff has knowledge of the program and guidelines.

### **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **8. FUTURE MEETING LOCATION AND AGENDA ITEMS**

Cecilia Estolano informed the board that the schedule of meeting dates may need to be revised to due to a scheduling conflict with transportation staff from Metro Board Directors. Katherine Perez-Estolano added that the transportation staff should be included in the transportation discussion at the COG meetings. The COG staff is currently reviewing viable dates for the future COG meetings to accommodate all board members and transportation staff.

#### **9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Councilmember Kevin McKeown provided an update on the Breeze Bike Share, as well as made a few comments on the Ellis Act evictions and requested a board discussion in March. Hernan Molina of West Hollywood brought to the board's attention AB 21 on marijuana cultivation.

### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

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