



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

**MEETING NOTES**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016  
12:00 NOON

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN  
543 N FAIRFAX AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90036

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Beverly Hills:** Mayor John Mirisch, Councilmember Julian Gold, M.D. Staff: Mahdi Aluzri, Cheryl Friedling, Aaron Kunz
- Culver City:** Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells. Staff: Diana Chang, Shelly Wolfberg
- Santa Monica:** Councilmember Kevin McKeown. Staff: Stephanie Venegas
- West Hollywood:** Mayor Lauren Meister, Councilmember Lindsey Horvath. Staff: Hernan Molina, Christof Schroeder, Joanna Hankamer
- City of LA:** District 5 Staff: Jay Greenstein
- County of LA:** District 3: Rachel Zaiden
- WSCCOG:** Executive Director: Cecilia Estolano. Staff: Winnie Fong, Andri Tai-Ward. Counsel: Lauren Langer
- Other Agencies:** Eric Geier (Metro), Lesley Blacher (LA County Homeless Initiative), Anthony Allman (Vets Advocacy)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councilmember Kevin McKeown (WSCCOG Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Maya Paley, Director of Legislative and Community Engagement for the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), welcomed guests and gave a brief overview of the programs and services that NCJW provides to the community. Councilmember McKeown initiated self-introductions by the attendees.

**2. ACTION ITEMS**

**(A) APPROVAL OF THE JULY 25, 2016 DRAFT MEETING NOTES**

A motion was made by Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells and seconded by Mayor Lauren Meister (WSCCOG Vice Chair) to approve the July 25, 2016 draft meeting notes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **(A) Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Agreement Amendment Update**

WSCCOG Executive Director Cecilia Estolano provided an update on the WSCCOG Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Agreement amendment. The legislative bodies from the cities of Los Angeles, Culver City, and Santa Monica have already voted to approve the amendment. The City of West Hollywood and the County of Los Angeles are anticipating approving the amendment soon. WSCCOG Chair McKeown and WSCCOG Counsel Lauren Langer clarified that the amendment process will conclude once a majority of local legislative bodies approved to pass the JPA amendment.

#### **(B) Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan (Measure M) Update**

Ms. Estolano provided a brief update on Metro's proposed sales tax ballot measure (Measure M) along with each member cities' position on the measure. Jay Greenstein noted that the City of Los Angeles voted to support the measure on September 14. The Culver City City Council voted in support of Measure M on September 12. The West Hollywood City Council plans to discuss the measure on September 19, followed by Beverly Hills City Council on September 20.

#### **(C) Caltrans Sustainability Transportation Planning Grant Update**

Ms. Estolano summarized the takeaways from the debriefing sessions with Caltrans and SCAG on the Caltrans Sustainability Transportation Planning Grant. This proposed grant proposal will focus on studying emerging technologies for first and last mile connectivity in Riverside County and the Westside region. Mayor Mirisch (WSCCOG Secretary) commented that Beverly Hills is the first and only city to partner with Stanford University's Center for Automotive Research and should be looped into the discussion for the project. He also mentioned that Beverly Hills is advocating for legislation similar to the AB 1592 (Bonilla) to designate Beverly Hills to become a pilot city for Level 4 autonomous vehicles for public transportation. Mayor Mirisch mentioned that his staff is ready to assist with this project.

#### **(D) Measure M Subregional Equity Program Update**

Ms. Estolano provided a brief summary on a correspondence letter sent to Mayor Tony Vazquez (City of Santa Monica) from Metro Board of Directors Chair, John Fasana regarding a notice of technical correction to Measure M. Contingent upon the passing of Measure M, WSCCOG could program approximately \$160 million portion of system connectivity funds for the inclusion of the Subregional Equity Program for each subregion, which will be provided as early as possible.

#### **(E) Emerging Technologies Conference**

Ms. Estolano provided a brief overview on the proposed conference proposal. Mayor Mirisch commented that he is interested in assisting the COG in this effort and added that the WSCCOG should explore autonomous vehicle-oriented development. Councilmember Julian Gold, M.D. noted that he was the only elected official to testify in favor of autonomous vehicles in front of the National Highway Traffic Safety

Administration (NHTSA) Board and reported to the WSCCOG Board that there was too much focus on technical details and a lack of discussion on the policy issues. Chair McKeown suggested the WSCCOG to agendaize this item for the next board meeting. Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells commented that public safety needs to be an explicit point of discussion and involve the fire department.

#### **4. PRESENTATION**

##### **(A) County of Los Angeles Homeless Initiative by the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office**

Lesley Blacher of the County's Homeless Initiative provided a presentation on the current status of homelessness issue in Los Angeles County and provided an overview of the initiative strategies in partnership with Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA) and opportunities for city partnerships. Mayor Meister and Hernan Molina (City of West Hollywood) noted that the City of West Hollywood started a Homeless Collaborative Program that resembles a Homeless Justice Court in partnership with judges and public defenders. Mayor Mirisch noted that the City of Beverly Hills initiated an Ambassador Program that serves as the first point of contact with homeless individuals instead of law enforcement officers. Mayor Mirisch also mentioned that we must address affordable housing development and induced demand. Councilmember Gold addressed mental health issues as a serious concern. Ms. Blacher mentioned that the County has launched mobile response teams with an infusion of funds to address these issues. Councilmember Sahli-Wells provided a brief update and mentioned that efforts to address homelessness must also reflect regional fair share. Ms. Blacher and Councilmember Sahli-Wells engaged in a discussion about funding parameters. Chair McKeown provided an update on Santa Monica's efforts to address homelessness and the need for more resources to address mental health issues. The discussion concluded that instead of forming another WSCCOG committee or task force on homeless issues, there needs to be a point of contact from all member cities staff to engage in ongoing discussion and check-ins with the WSCCOG Executive Director. Ms. Estolano summarized the discussion and identified the Board's priority for the first responder training and the Homeless Collaborative Program.

##### **(B) Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Campus Veteran Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan by Vets Advocacy**

Anthony Allman, Director of Outreach, gave a presentation on the West LA Campus master plan and noted that all member cities have signed letter of supports for the master plan.

#### **5. LEGISLATION**

Chair McKeown led a brief discussion on assembling a WSCCOG legislative agenda to discuss at the November WSCCOG Board meeting so that Councilmember Lindsey Horvath (WSCCOG Regional Director for the League of California Cities) can act on legislative action items on the League's board. Councilmember Horvath mentioned that she will routinely attend WSCCOG meetings and provide the board with a list of legislative items up for discussion and potential action.

#### **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Sahli-Wells announced upcoming events related to homelessness, including the SCAG Housing Conference and upcoming Westside Urban Forum event. Councilmember

Sahli-Wells also provided informational handouts regarding Culver City's Clean Water, Clean Beach Parcel Tax (Measure CW).

**7. FUTURE MEETING LOCATION AND AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Estolano requested that member cities send specific ideas for the Westside Emerging Technologies Conference Proposal to further discuss at the November board meeting.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m. Chair McKeown provided a few closing words in memoriam of former Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor Ed Edelman.