

South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Thursday, April 28, 2005
 Katy Geissert Civic Center Library – Torrance California

Chair Susan Seamans called the meeting of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments to order at 7:20 p.m. In attendance were the following members:

Harold C. Williams, Carson
 Susan Dever, Lomita
 Dwight Abbott, Palos Verdes Estates
 John Parsons, Redondo Beach
 Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates

John Gaines, El Segundo
 Jim Aldinger, Manhattan Beach
 Steve Wolowicz, Rancho Palos Verdes
 Don Szerlip, Redondo Beach

Also in attendance were the following persons:
 Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG Exec. Director
 Ann Marie Wallace, League of California Cities
 David Madson, AQMD
 Diane Cameron, SBCCOG

Merna Marshall, SBCCOG
 Renee Berlin, MTA
 Henry Khan, CSUDH
 Darin Chidsey, SCAG

Flag Salute - led by Chair Susan Seamans

Self-Introductions

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – none

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – none

Motion to accept and file report of City Clerk of Torrance on Posting of the Agenda

MOTION by Board Member Parsons, seconded by Board Member Aldinger, to accept the posting of the meeting in the City of Torrance. No objection. So ordered.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION by Board Member Szerlip, seconded by Board Member Wolowicz, to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. All Ayes. So ordered.

- A. March Board Meeting Minutes – Approve**
- B. SCAG 40th Anniversary Resolution – Approve**
- C. 3rd Quarter Financial Report– Receive and file**
- D. Dues for FY 05-06 – Approve No Change from last year.**

Ceremonial Matters

On behalf of the Board Members and COG, Chairman Seamans thanked Past SBCCOG Chair Councilmember Linda Wilson for 8 years of dedicated public service to the South Bay and the City of Manhattan Beach.

Setting SBCCOG Work Program & Priorities for 05-06

Jacki Bacharach reviewed the proposed Work Program and Priorities for 2005-06, including:

- Energy Efficiency Programs (Energy Savings Center; Summer Initiative; CALEEP; Policy Role)
- Transportation (Coastal Corridor; ITS; Monitoring LAX issues; Supporting Green Line extension to Galleria; I-405, I-110 arterial access issues)
- Traffic Alert System—maintenance and implementation
- 310 Area Code—coordinate response to PUC and FCC actions
- Air Force Base Retention—promote and support retention
- Livable Communities—refine evaluation; consider pilot project; monitor/coordinate RHNA and other SCAG documents as

needed

- Homeland Security—share ideas of successful programs & strategies and hear from experts in field; work with Area G to sponsor training programs for SBCCOG cities
- Joint Projects: salary data; support city grant applications, as appropriate; website; quarterly newsletter; training programs (any ideas)
- Liaison with Regional Agencies—one point access for MTA, SCAG, SCAQMD with SBCCOG cities
- Legislative Activities & Special Events: legislative forums/meetings with legislators; “Day at the County”; testify on pertinent issues; lobbying positions on critical legislation/regulations

Proposed New Projects:

- Website Redesign & Improvements (modernize & make more user friendly; add demographic information and other data; create intranet for internal communications;
- Technology Resources for Cities
- General Assembly: need a good topic for February 2006
 - a. Transportation
 - b. Goods movement
 - c. Air quality
 - d. Natural resources/environment/utilities
 - e. Technology—how we will live, communicate & get info in the future
 - f. Escalating gas prices and their impact on the south bay
 - g. Changing demographics: who are we planning for
 - h. Subregional GIS and its benefits
 - i. Marketing cities
 - j. Parks & recreation in the south bay

Some suggested topics for the General Assembly include: combining the first three, since they are related; Infrastructure; housing; economic development and what it means to a city.

Jacki Bacharach presented other possible Ideas for consideration:

- Funding for 405 access improvements as well as Rosecrans & Coastal Corridor
- Evaluate adequacy of future energy and/r water supply for the South Bay
- Working with Coalition to re-use South Bay railroad right of way
- Economic Development—redevelopment, mapping fiber optics
- Additional transit marketing (field trip packages)
- Traffic calming
- Land use: density and built-out issues - The benefit of holding a land use workshop by the SBCCOG is that it isn't city-specific and gives a South Bay perspective.

Board Member Parsons asked how the COG can be a resource. Sharing our successes can help our neighboring cities. Quite often we're familiar with our own demographics but it could be helpful to share with other cities. When we talk about the South Bay growing so much, it isn't the entire South Bay that has grown. Perhaps we could collect the data and post on the website.

Items of joint interest may include:

- Public safety – crime and drug use
- Animal control issues
- Recreation: skateboard parks, beach issues
- Partnerships with other governments, (school districts)
- Clean cities program
- Other corridors to study – 190th Street;
- More “Go See” trips
- taking a port trip on land rather than on water.

Board member Ikejiri suggested inviting Huell Houser to do a program on the South Bay Cities COG, similar to that done on the City of Gardena.

Board Member Aldinger suggested reviewing the amount of staff effort given to energy efficiency.

PRESENTATIONS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Legislative Committee Report

Board Member Judy Mitchell reported on the recommended positions on various legislation:

AB 1192 (Villines); recommend support
SB 435 (Hollingsworth); recommend oppose
AB 1101 (Oropeza); recommend support
AB 1407 (Oropeza); recommend support
SB 926 (Florez); recommend oppose
AB 697 (Oropeza); recommend support
AB 1678 (Aldana); recommend monitor until more information is provided
AB 260 (Bermudez); recommend oppose
SB 1059 (Escutia); recommend oppose unless amended
SB 274 (Romero); recommend monitor

In response to a question related to the bill that concentrates on cruise ships and does not include goods movement, Board Member Parsons explained that cruise ships run the same in dock as they do at sea, because they have passengers and goods movement ships do not so they are covered under other legislation.

MOTION by Board Member Aldinger, seconded by Board Member Wolowicz to approve Legislative Committee recommendations. No objection. So ordered.

Board Member Parsons asked for support of AB 559, a bill that would require that airports getting a noise variance every three years to notify those people affected by it. Jacki said she would get more information on the proposed legislation.

AQMD Board Composition Change

Jacki Bacharach gave an update on efforts related to the SCAQMD Board.

In response to Board Member Szerlip's inquiry whether having the consultant will be ongoing or if there is a finite term, Jacki Bacharach stated that it is important to have a consultant working on this until consensus is reached. Board Member Szerlip asked that the other organizations that also support this effort be informed that they may be asked for further pledges in order to see this through to the end.

MOTION by Board Member Dever, seconded by Board Member Wolowicz, to extend the contract for services with Claudette Moody for an additional three months to July 31, 2005, resulting in an increase of the contribution of the SBCCOG by \$3,600 to a total of \$6,300, with the understanding that should other contributions be received, they will be used before the SBCCOG funds are expended. All ayes. So ordered.

Area Code

Board Chair Seamans reported that staff did a fine job representing the COG position at the PUC hearings this month and noted that several of the COG Board members were present and testified. She noted that the South Bay COG has not taken a position on whether to support a split or overlay.

Jacki Bacharach reviewed the priorities and stressed the importance of cities communicating with their representatives regarding the AB 1380. She pointed out that the PUC will soon release a recommendation, which will necessitate a response from the COG; the newest commissioner on the PUC has not been confirmed and it is important that Senator Bowen (a member of the confirmation committee) understand the importance of number inventory guidelines.

Board Member Abbott emphasized that he does not believe the overlay will happen because no one wants it. It's not a question of split vs. overlay—it's a question of whether either is even needed. We don't believe there is a need and the rate of need will decrease—we have 25 years worth of numbers and the split isn't needed.

Board Member Parsons disagreed, commenting that the carriers and some of the Commissioners really want to do an overlay because they want to start doing it across the state, not just in 310.

Jacki Bacharach suggested those cities with a lobbyist ask them to investigate and meet with any commissioners they know and provide assistance. Board Member Parsons recommended that every city make sure their lobbyists' contact information is available to the COG so when they are needed they can be contacted immediately.

BRAC

Board Member Parsons reported on recent activities to save the L.A. Air Force Base and noted that the fight is continuing. He explained that an analysis of the L.A. Air Force Base was done by a "cross services group", headed by a presidential appointee—former dean of engineering at Colorado Springs, a two star general who is involved in economic development in Colorado. He was also on the oversight committee in 2000 to bring more space business to Colorado and now he heads up the "bean

counters" analysis on what should be done with the L.A. Air Force Base. Parsons noted that there is concern about his impartiality.

Board Member Parsons said he is very nervous, noting that the list is required to be out by the 16th of May, but rumors are that it could be out by May 10, 11 or 12. The Committee is currently laying the groundwork for the appeal to the Commissioners.

AGENCY REPORTS

League of California Cities (Ann Marie Wallace)

Anne Marie Wallace reported on the **South Bay Ballot Measure Campaign Workshop on Wednesday, June 29, 2005**, and **Legislative Action Days, May 11-12, 2005**, as well as other items of interest.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Pam O'Connor)

Renee Berlin reported on behalf of Pam O'Connor. Bonnie Lowenthal has been nominated to fill the MTA vacant seat left by Bea Proo and the City Selection Committee vote to confirm is very important. There will be an MTA budget workshop on May 19 for public input; an MTA workshop on May 11 at City of Torrance related to "how to do changes to the federal transportation improvement program"; and a workshop on May 26 in Rolling Hills Estates regarding walkable communities.

Board Member Aldinger expressed an interest in a position on the Coastal Commission seat at the City Selection Committee meeting and encouraged every city to send a voting delegate to the City Selection Committee meeting. It was also mentioned that Judy Mitchell was interested in a seat on LAFCO.

ADDITION OF ITEM OF URGENCY TO THE AGENDA

Jacki Bacharach explained that, if the Board wished to add this item to the agenda since it came up after the posting of the agenda and the City Selection Committee meeting is before the next Board meeting, it would take a 2/3-majority vote.

MOTION by Board Member Szerlip, seconded by Board member Dever, to add to the agenda as an urgency issue. All ayes. So ordered.

MOTION by Board Member Dever, seconded by Szerlip, to recommend Jim Aldinger and Judy Mitchell for the vacant positions on the Coastal Commission and LAFCO respectively and to direct staff to send a letter. All Ayes. So ordered.

South Coast Air Quality Management District (David Madsen)

David Madsen reported on several AQMD activities referred to in a newsletter distributed to the Board. He noted that 1) the 2005 Clean Air Awards deadline is Friday, May 27, and encouraged interested cities to submit their nomination; 2) there are currently 3 AQMD railroad mitigation bills, all of which have been supported by the COG; and 3) Senators Bowen and Oropeza chair very important committees as they relate to these bills and thanked several cities for their letters of support.

Energy Projects Update

Marilyn Lyon reported that 1) the summer initiative is beginning and will emphasize the need to reduce energy load to avoid blackouts; 2) a request for funding for interns has been submitted. They will attend community events, including farmers markets, to get the information out; 3) there are rebates available for pool heaters and other home appliances; 4) the energy office continues training programs and because of the growing office staff and because Edison is so happy with what is being accomplished, they have outgrown the office and would like to relocate.

Jacki Bacharach reviewed the process of choosing a new location and explained the proposed location for the new office has a one-year lease commitment, with no buyout. She noted the significance of this short-term lease being the fact that Edison owns a building on Maple Avenue and Edison representatives have indicated an interest in allowing the South Bay Energy Savings Center to locate at this building. Such a location would possibly allow more demonstrations and training locally. Staff will continue working with Edison. If that were to happen, it would be good not to be committed to a long-term lease.

Jacki Bacharach said the detailed costs for moving will be presented to the Steering Committee prior to committing to the move.

Board Member Dever noted that after reviewing each of the locations, the 3868 Carson Street location is the one she recommends. She said the layout is perfect for our purposes, is ready to be used; has easy access parking; the layout is perfect, clean and ready to go. She noted that while it is more expensive, but it has a lot of what we can use.

Jacki Bacharach indicated that the decision could be made at the May 9th Steering Committee

Board Member Parsons asked to see detailed information on moving costs, broken down in one-time or monthly costs and assurance that we have options to extend the lease if the Edison building isn't available.

MOTION by Board Member Parsons, seconded by Board Member Dever, to support concept choice #1 and authorize the Steering Committee to make the necessary decisions in regards to relocating. All Ayes. So ordered.

Flex Your Power – Marilyn Lyon announced a special meeting on May 19th from 8 am to 10 am at Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems, which will be one of six regional meetings statewide. She encouraged cities to invite their large energy users to attend the meeting. Joe Desmond, Chair of the California Energy Commission will be the speaker.

Board Member Wolowicz reported that the City of Rancho Palos Verdes is interested in what the city could adopt to offer incentives to builders and asked Marilyn Lyon to attend a council meeting and provide information. Their interest was an outgrowth of the General Assembly,

SCAG Committees

Community, Economic, and Housing Development (Paul Nowatka)

Jacki Bacharach reported that SCAG's housing summit held last week received excellent reviews and said she would ask Paul Nowatka to give a report in the future.

Transportation and Communication (Don Szerlip, Jim Aldinger)

Don Szerlip reported on the last Transportation and Communication meeting.

South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce (John Parsons)

Board Member Parsons reported on recent activities of the South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce.

SBCCOG UPDATE AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Technology Committee (Michael Keegan, Chair)

Jacki Bacharach requested approval to send a letter to the League of California Cities asking what the League is doing to investigate policies regarding "Fiber to the Premises". She said the letter would ask the League for assistance in several areas. Comments from the Board included adding: "...and other telecommunication equipment", as well as citing reference to the federal law, the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

Jacki Bacharach said she received an e-mail from Maggie Healey of Redondo Beach regarding cable-franchising fees being in jeopardy from federal legislation – HR 214 - and cities are being asked to oppose the legislation. She asked for authorization to call the National League and cable associations to get an understanding of what actions are being taken and whether they are looking at developing a comprehensive approach, noting that she would report back to the Technology Committee and Legislative Committee.

It was noted that the Peninsula cities are working together on the renegotiation of their franchises.

Board Member Szerlip expressed concern with the impact of this on the UUT tax.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Merna Marshall
Secretary