

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Planning Directors Committee was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair John Hildebrand on the Zoom platform.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Hildebrand led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Members present:

Christina Taylor, City of Beaumont (9:50 a.m. arrival)
Kelly Lucia, City of Calimesa
Jay Eastman, City of Corona
Gustavo Gonzalez, City of Eastvale
Tamara Campbell, City of Jurupa Valley
Richard MacHott, City of Lake Elsinore
Doug Darnell, City of Meniffee
Patty Nevins, City of Moreno Valley
Jarett Ramaiya, City of Murrieta
Alma Robles, City of Norco
Kenneth Phung, City of Perris
David Murray, City of Riverside
Travis Randel, City of San Jacinto
Matt Peters, City of Temecula
Matt Bassi, City of Wildomar
John Hildebrand, County of Riverside (Chair)
Jeffrey Smith, March JPA
Kristin Warsinski, Riverside Transit Agency

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Arnold San Miguel, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), announced that SCAG's Regional Council has approved the release of guidelines for SCAG's 2020/2021 Sustainable Communities Program Smart Cities and Mobility Innovations. Applications are due April 23, 2021. In addition, the Regional Greenprint project started gathering input in spring 2020 and is anticipated to be ready for stakeholder input and user testing this spring and is planned for a fall 2021 launch.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR – *(San Jacinto / March JPA) 17 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions. Item 5.A was approved. Representatives from the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Canyon Lake, Hemet, and Western Municipal Water District were not present.*

A. Summary Minutes from the February 11, 2021, Planning Directors Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration.

Action: 1. *Approved the Summary Minutes from the February 11, 2021, Planning Directors Committee meeting.*

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. Regional Housing Trust Initiative Update

Ivana Medina, WRCOG Senior Analyst, provided an update on the latest development related to the establishment of the Western Riverside County Regional Housing Trust and requested volunteers to serve on a Regional Housing Trust Steering Committee. Assembly member Kelly Seyarto introduced AB 687, authorizing the creation of a Western Riverside County Housing Finance Trust, a joint powers authority. This legislation enables the formation of a Trust but does not require a Trust to be formed or what entity would administer it. Staff is requesting member agencies to submit letters of support, as well as volunteers to publicly testify in favor of the Bill at the date of its hearing. The hearing date should be announced soon.

Staff is in the process of recruiting members for a Steering Committee that will convene in April 2021. The purpose of the Steering Committee will be to discuss current housing and homelessness programs in the region and to determine if a Housing Trust should be formed, as well as what the goals and key functions of a Housing Trust would be.

Action: 1. *The following Planning Directors Committee members volunteered to be part of the Housing Trust Steering Committee: Kelly Lucia, City of Calimesa; Robert Flores, County of Riverside, Jarrett Ramaiya, City of Murrieta; Travis Randel, City of San Jacinto; and Matt Peters, City of Temecula.*

B. Legislative Activities Update

Bill Blankenship, WRCOG On-Call Legislative Consultant, provided an update on legislation activity related to housing and planning related-issues. Notably, AB 687 authorizes the formation of a Western Riverside County Housing Trust, which is the first piece of legislation that WRCOG has helped author. Staff is interested in members testifying in favor of the bill and will keep members informed when the hearing date is announced.

Mr. Blankenship is available for consultation regarding current legislation primarily focused on planning.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

C. Mobile Food Vendor Information Sharing

Abdu Lachgar, Associate Planner with the City of Wildomar and John Hildebrand, TLMA Deputy Director with the County of Riverside, presented on mobile food vendor activities each of their jurisdictions have recently tackled. The City of Wildomar adopted an ordinance establishing a streamlined process for review and approval and to ease roadblocks for City approval. Staff are working with the City's Economic Development Department to attract more mobile food vending businesses and opportunities for food truck festivals. The County of Riverside established a regulatory framework for mobile food trucks operating on vacant, private properties to ensure standardized permitting, location, and operations.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

D. RTA Activities Update - TUMF Funded Projects

Kristin Warsinski, Director of Planning with the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA), provided an update on projects that have been completed as well as projects that are underway from contributions from the TUMF Program. RTA receives approximately 3% of TUMF funds collected to implement transit projects in the WRCOG subregion to alleviate congestion from new growth. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed challenges to RTA as ridership is down 72%. RTA is conducting Sunday service seven-days a week with select CommuterLink weekday service. RTA has improved 108 bus stops in the past four

fiscal years and is expected to complete improvements on 10 bus stops this fiscal year. RTA continues to make progress on its Mobility Hub Projects in the City of Hemet and at the Downtown Riverside Vine Street location. RTA is finalizing and executing a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Hemet and will soon begin Phase 2 of the Mobility Hub Project. RTA is also working on architectural and engineering work for the Vine Street Project, as well as working to meet the California Air Resources Board's Innovative Clean Transit Regulations which requires all large transit agencies to submit a roll-out plan for its fleet.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

E. HCD Technical Assistance Program Update

Sohab Mehmood and other staff members from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) will be available for one-on-one sessions to answer any questions as member agencies progress through its Housing Element updates. Member agencies are encouraged to participate in these sessions to discuss progress and ask any technical questions. The one-on-one sessions will be held on the second Thursday of each month. WRCOG staff is coordinating with HCD staff on a system for member agencies to sign-up. Please be on the lookout for an email with this information.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

7. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chris Gray shared that this year's General Assembly will be held virtually. The March 2021 Future Forward will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. March is Women's History Month and WRCOG will be celebrating female elected leaders throughout the month featuring them on social media posts and holding a special virtual event at the end of the month.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee member Richard MacHott requested an update on the Regional Climate Action Plan effort.

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general announcements.

10. NEXT MEETING: The next Planning Directors Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 8, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., on the Zoom platform.

11. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting of the Planning Directors Committee adjourned at 11:02 a.m.