

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Vice-Chair Andy Okoro on the virtual platform, Zoom.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Members present:**

Chris Mann, City of Canyon Lake  
Bryan Jones, City of Eastvale (10:10 a.m. arrival)  
Rod Butler, City of Jurupa Valley  
Grant Yates, City of Lake Elsinore  
Armando Villa, City of Menifee  
Mike Lee, City of Moreno Valley  
Stacey Stevenson, City of Murrieta  
Andy Okoro, City of Norco, Vice-Chair  
Clara Miramontes, City of Perris  
Rob Johnson, City of San Jacinto  
Aaron Adams, City of Temecula  
Gary Nordquist, City of Wildomar  
Danielle Coats, Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD)  
Craig Miller, Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) (arrival 9:55 a.m.)  
Mathew Evans, March Joint Powers Authority  
Floyd Velasquez, Morongo Band of Mission Indians

**Staff present:**

Steve DeBaun, Legal Counsel  
Rick Bishop, Executive Director  
Barbara Spoonhour, Deputy Executive Director - Operations  
Casey Dailey, Director of Energy & Environmental Programs  
Chris Gray, Director of Transportation & Planning  
Tyler Masters, Program Manager  
Christopher Tzeng, Program Manager  
Elisa Laurel, Program Manager  
Don Ries, Program Manager  
Janis Leonard, Administrative Services Manager  
Anthony Segura, Senior Analyst  
Avie Barron, Senior Analyst  
Kyle Rodriguez, Staff Analyst  
Lupe Lotman, Staff Analyst  
Rachel Singer, Staff Analyst  
Ivana Medina, Staff Analyst  
Daniel Soltero, Staff Analyst  
Ani Dhruva, Intern

**Guests present:**

Erin Sasse, League of California Cities  
A.J. Wilson, International City / County Management Association (ICMA)  
Imelda Huerta, City of Menifee

Jeff Wyman, City of Menifee  
Jeff Wolfe, City of Moreno Valley  
Louie Lacasella, City of Murrieta  
Jillian Guizado, Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)  
Martha Masters, RCTC  
Juan Perez, County of Riverside  
Arnold San Miguel, Southern California Association of Governments

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

### **4. SELECTION OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, AND 2ND VICE-CHAIR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021**

**Action:** 1. *The Technical Advisory Committee selected Andy Okoro, City of Norco, as Chair; George Johnson, County of Riverside, as Vice-Chair; and Rob Johnson, City of San Jacinto, as 2nd Vice-Chair.*

*(Canyon Lake / Jurupa Valley) 14 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Item 4 was approved. Representatives from the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, and Riverside, County of Riverside, and WMWD were not present.*

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR** *(San Jacinto / Temecula) 14 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Items 5.A through 5.H were approved. Representatives from the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, and Riverside, County of Riverside, and WMWD were not present.*

#### **A. Summary Minutes from the May 21, 2020, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration.**

**Action:** 1. *Approved the Summary Minutes from the May 21, 2020, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.*

#### **B. Finance Department Activities Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

#### **C. International City / County Management Association Activities Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

#### **D. Single Signature Authority Report**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

#### **E. Approval of a Professional Services Agreement for the Analyses of the Smart Climate-Resilient Transportation Planning and Investments Project**

**Action:** 1. *Recommended that the Executive Committee approve the Professional Services Agreement between Western Riverside Council of Governments and WSP USA, Inc., to provide technical services conducting risk assessments on vulnerable transportation assets in the Inland Empire region in an amount not to exceed \$379,175.47.*

**F. Regional Streetlight Program Activities Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

**G. SCAG Connect SoCal Plan Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

**H. AB 3205 Regions Rise Grant Program Update**

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

**6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**

**A. Riverside County Economic Recovery Task Force Update**

Juan Perez reported that The Riverside County Board of Supervisors created a working group of approximately 20 business leaders and public-sector leaders to meet on an on-going basis to address the economic impacts of COVID-19.

The County has a business assistance program which provides up to \$10k to local businesses through the CARES Act funding the County receives. During the first round, approximately \$7.5 million was issued. A second round is currently open and approximately \$15 million has been issued to date.

The County's hospital Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is near capacity. ICU percentages will begin to appear as if they are decreasing, as the State's requirement is to include natal and pediatric ICU beds in its count, even if it is non-COVID-19 related.

The State of California has indicated that a portion of existing and future CARES Act and public safety funding will be tied to the County's enforcement related to public health orders.

County legal counsel will be coordinating with city legal counsel regarding violations of public health orders.

The County will soon be launching a Business Ambassador Grant Program throughout the County, including within the cities. Businesses can request the County to assist in the business becoming compliant with current health orders.

Currently, the County is unable to disburse any of its CARES Act funding to the cities. The State will likely be providing direct allocations to cities.

Rick Bishop indicated that the County is sending cease and desist notifications to businesses which are not abiding by State guidelines and asked where the tips were coming from.

Mr. Perez responded that the County is learning about businesses not abiding to State guidelines through various means, such as through environmental health inspections, residents, and other businesses.

The County distributes a weekly newsletter which includes all things COVID-19.

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

## **B. Report from the League of California Cities**

Erin Sasse reported that cities are getting a small portion of the State's CARES Act allocation. Original estimates were that cities were losing approximately \$7 billion in revenues, and this number will continue to increase. Monthly installments from the State should begin in approximately two weeks.

The League's annual event will be held virtually this year; information will be distributed in the near future.

Due to meeting restrictions in response to COVID-19, the Senate is asking Legislators to voluntarily hold their bills back.

Assembly Bill (AB) 2999 (as amended, Low. Employees: bereavement leave) would provide an employee up to 10 business days of unpaid bereavement leave upon a family member's death. This is an increase in the number of days provided.

The League opposes AB 3216 (as amended, Kalra. Unemployment: rehiring and retention: state of emergency), which would require an employer to grant a request of an employee to take up to 12 weeks off for medical leave and/or to care for a family member, to include having to stay home due to the lack of care providers for their school-aged children.

The League opposes AB 1279 (as amended, Bloom. Planning and zoning: housing development: high-opportunity areas), which would require the California Department of Housing and Community Development to designate high resource areas beginning in January 2021 and every five years thereafter. Additionally, in these high resource areas, cities would be required, at the request of a developer, to allow four-plexes in a family zone, and up to 100 units per acre in commercial zones.

The League supports in concept AB 3040 (as amended, Chiu. Local planning: regional housing need assessment), a voluntary program to incentivize local governments to allow four units per parcels by right, in exchange for credits toward Regional Housing Needs Assessment numbers.

The League supports AB 2122 (as introduced, Blanca Rubio. Unlawful cannabis activity: enforcement), which would authorize local governments to impose a civil penalty up to \$30k per violation on persons who aid an unlicensed commercial cannabis activity.

Chair Andy Okoro asked if the League will be providing regulations which clearly define eligibility regarding CARES Act funding, such as staff hours.

Ms. Sasse responded that there are Federal guidelines, which does allow for some salaries to be used. For cities which rely upon County law enforcement it is recommended that the city have a letter or resolution on file indicating its expectation that the law enforcement dedicated to that city will assist to uphold public health orders.

**Action:**        1.        *Received and filed.*

## **C. Public Service Fellowship Update**

Rachel Singer reported that in February 2020, the Executive Committee approved programmatic changes to sustain an every-other-year priority placement in member agencies. A 50/50 split was approved which requires the member agency to pay for half the cost of a Fellow. For host agencies which does not have priority status in any particular year, that agency is responsible for 100% of the costs for that Fellow.

In March 2020, the Fellowship Program was postponed due to the impacts of COVID-19; the start date moved from July 2020 to September 2020.

For this Fifth Round, over 50 Fellow applications have been received to date, and 10 host agency applications have been received. Fellow interviews will be held in August 2020 and placements will occur in September 2020.

Moving forward, staff will reconvene the Fellowship Ad Hoc Committee to discuss the optics of the Fifth Round of the Program in light of the impacts of COVID-19.

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

#### **D. WRCOG Climate Adaptation Efforts**

Chris Gray reported that this subregion is subject to various climate-related events such as wildfire, extreme heat, and drought. The recently completed Resilient Inland Empire (IE) Toolkit includes a set of tools for Western Riverside and San Bernardino County jurisdictions to address climate-related challenges.

The second Phase of Resilient IE, which will start in fall of 2020, will develop a tool for transportation infrastructure that identifies those facilities most at risk for climate-related events.

Casey Dailey reported that WRCOG is beginning work on another grant to address the issue of energy resiliency. Earlier this year, the Bay Area Council awarded WRCOG \$200,000 to provide information for future decision-making regarding energy resiliency technologies, projects, and applications for member jurisdictions to maintain constant power supply during climate-related events.

WRCOG has partnered with the University of California, Riverside, CE-CERT (Center for Environmental Research and Technology) to submit a proposal to develop an Energy Resiliency Plan. Key points of the plan include an assessment of existing climate resiliency planning and projects; identification and assessment of critical facilities and infrastructure; assessment of existing backup generation and storage systems; and the development of a high overview business model to include project economics, funding opportunities, and revenue-generating opportunities. Request for Proposals is anticipated to be released later this month.

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

#### **E. Environmental Department Programs Activities Update**

Kyle Rodriguez reported that the City of San Jacinto was awarded \$140,000 to the remove waste from three homeless encampments. The AB 939 Electronic Annual Reports submission date has been extended past August 1, 2020, with the transition of a new Recycling Disposal Reporting System.

WRCOG's Used Oil Program campaign will transition from public service announcements to a voucher program. Video ads have reached approximately 1.6 million residents since promotion began in April 2020.

The EcoHero Shows began in December 2019 and reached six schools; due to COVID-19 the shows were transitioned to virtual shows for an additional five schools.

State Route-91, from Riverside to Los Angeles, was designated as an Alternative Fuel Vehicle Corridor under the Federal Highway Administration for Electric and Hydrogen passenger vehicles, which will provide more funding opportunities and address infrastructure gaps along or near the Corridor.

**Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*

## **7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Rick Bishop reported that WRCOG's Grant Writing Assistance Program has brought in just over \$31 million for the City of Riverside to boost its plans for integrated transit; urban greening; and affordable housing in its Eastside neighborhood. Approximately \$567k has been awarded to the County of Riverside to perform a joint land use study for the March Air Reserve Base.

The next Future Forward webinar is scheduled for July 30, 2020 and will include discussions on how COVID-19 is changing the way we drive.

Staff recently held a visioning session in which staff discussed a number of recommendations provided by member jurisdictions over the last year or so. Three proposals were submitted to the Administration & Finance Committee for consideration: 1) formation of an Economic Development Corporation; 2) formation of a Regional Housing Trust; and 3) formation of a GIS Service Bureau for member agencies. Presentations through the WRCOG Committee structure is forthcoming.

After 19 years of service, Barbara Spoonhour, WRCOG's Deputy Executive Director, is retiring. Ms. Spoonhour has spearheaded several of WRCOG's programs, most recently the formation of Western Community Energy, which is operating within six member jurisdictions.

## **8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

There were no items for future agendas.

## **9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Arnold San Miguel announced that the deadline to apply for LEAP grant funding has been extended to January 2021

## **10. NEXT MEETING**

**The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., via the Zoom platform.**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:38 a.m.**