

Western Riverside Council of Governments

4.A

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

Monday, August 3, 2020

2:00 PM

Zoom Platform

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kevin Bash at 2:00 p.m. on August 3, 2020, on the Zoom virtual platform.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Jurisdiction	Attendee Name	Status	Arrived / Departed
City of Banning	Daniela Andrade	Present	1:55 PM
City of Beaumont	Mike Lara	Present	1:55 PM
City of Calimesa	Jeff Cervantez	Present	1:55 PM
City of Canyon Lake	Jordan Ehrenkranz	Present	1:55 PM
City of Corona	Jason Scott	Present	2:08 PM
City of Eastvale	Joseph Tessari	Present	1:55 PM
City of Hemet		Absent	
City of Jurupa Valley	Micheal Goodland	Present	1:55 PM
City of Lake Elsinore	Brian Tisdale	Present	1:55 PM
City of Menifee	Matt Liesemeyer	Present	1:55 PM
City of Moreno Valley	Victoria Baca	Present	1:55 PM
City of Murrieta	Kelly Seyarto	Present	1:55 PM
City of Norco	Kevin Bash	Present	1:55 PM
City of Perris	Rita Rogers	Present	1:55 PM
City of Riverside	Rusty Bailey	Present	1:55 PM
City of San Jacinto	Crystal Ruiz	Present	1:55 PM
City of Temecula	Zac Schwank	Present	1:55 PM
City of Wildomar	Ben Benoit	Present	1:55 PM
District 1		Absent	
District 2	Karen Spiegel	Present	1:55 PM
District 3		Absent	
District 5	Jeff Hewitt	Present	1:55 PM
EMWD	Ronald Sullivan	Present	1:55 PM
WMWD	Brenda Dennstedt	Present	1:55 PM
Morongo Band of Mission Indians		Absent	
Office of Education (ex-officio)	Dr. Judy White	Present	1:55 PM
TAC Chair	Andy Okoro	Absent	
Executive Director	Rick Bishop	Present	1:55 PM

Note: Times above reflect when the member logged in; they may have arrived at the meeting earlier.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER:	Moreno Valley
SECONDER:	Banning
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar, District 2, District 5, EMWD, WMWD
ABSENT:	Corona, Hemet, District 1, District 3, Morongo Band of Mission Indians

A. Summary Minutes from the June 1, 2020, Executive Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration

Action: 1. *Approved the Summary Minutes from the June 1, 2020, Executive Committee meeting.*

B. PACE Programs Activities Update: Request to Enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with First National Assets

Actions: 1. *Authorized the Executive Director to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement, substantially as to form, with First National Assets for the purchase of delinquent assessment receivables.*
2. *Adopted Resolution Number 25-20; A Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments Approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the sale of Assessment Installment Receivables.*

C. TUMF Program Activities Update: Approval of Reimbursement Agreements Amendments

Actions: 1. *Authorized the Executive Director to execute a TUMF Reimbursement Agreement Amendment with the City of Menifee for the Project Planning, and Engineering phases of the Bundy Canyon / Scott Road. Widening. (Sunset to Haun) Project in an amount not to exceed \$2,370,000.*
2. *Authorized the Executive Director to execute a TUMF Reimbursement Agreement Amendment with the City of Wildomar for the Project Planning, and Engineering, and Right-Of-Way phases of the Palomar Road. (Mission Trail to Jefferson) Project in an amount not to exceed \$1,320,517.*
3. *Authorized the Executive Director to execute a TUMF Reimbursement Agreement Amendment with the City of Moreno Valley for the Project Planning, and Engineering, and Right-Of-Way phases of the Moreno Beach / SR-60 Interchange Project in an amount not to exceed \$20,758,480.*

- D. Approval of a Professional Services Agreement for the Analyses of the Smart Climate-Resilient Transportation Planning and Investments Project**
- Action:** 1. *Authorized the Executive Director to enter into a Professional Services Agreement between WRCOG 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.*
- E. Approval of a Third Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Kearns and West, Inc., for On-Call Planning Professional Services**
- Action:** 1. *Authorized the Executive Director to execute a Third Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement between WRCOG and Kearns and West, Inc., to provide WRCOG planning support and advisory services in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 for the WRCOG Clean Cities Program, taking the amended contract in a not-to-exceed amount of \$266,485 in total, and to extend the term of the Agreement through June 30, 2021.*
- F. Update of WRCOG's Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for all Employees**
- Action:** 1. *Adopted Resolution Number 26-20; A Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments amending the updated WRCOG Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for all Employees (August 3, 2020).*
- G. Finance Department Activities Update**
- Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*
- H. Regional Streetlight Program Activities Update**
- Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*
- I. Western Riverside Energy Partnership Program Activities update**
- Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*
- J. Report out of WRCOG Representatives on Various Committees**
- Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*
- K. Records Retention Schedule Update**
- Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*
- L. WRCOG Climate Adaptation Efforts Update**
- Action:** 1. *Received and filed.*
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5. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**A. Report from the League of California Cities**

Erin Sasse, League of California Cities representative, reported that the Federal Senate released another stimulus package; unfortunately, funding for local governments was not included.

The State released a \$100B package which also does not include funding for local governments. There is a sales tax deferral included that could potentially hurt cities.

Senate Bill (SB) 1351 (as amended, Beall. Transportation improvement fee: revenue bonds) could be tied to SB 1 funding. It is possible that the tie between the two was unintended and the League is hopeful that this could be fixed before the bill goes out.

Assembly Bill 1279 (as amended, Bloom. Planning and zoning: housing development: high-opportunity areas) is very similar to SB 50; the League has taken a position of oppose unless amended.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

B. Riverside County Economic Recovery Task Force Activities Update

Juan Perez, Director of Transportation and Land Management Agency for the County of Riverside, reported that as of last Friday, July 31, 2020, Riverside County had 37,000 cases of COVID-19; however, there is a lag in reporting.

Riverside County oversees a Business Assistance Program and has allocated \$45M in CARES Act funding toward this Program. The County has expended \$19.7M in direct funding to local businesses, and another \$8.8M committed. Many of the funding requests are coming from small businesses.

The Business Ambassador Program launched last week and provides guidance on how to comply with state requirements.

The County's Rental Assistance Program has assisted approximately 2,500 constituents.

The Board of Supervisors are scheduled to allocate \$10M to the Riverside County Office of Education.

The goal of the County's Mask is Medicine campaign is to distribute 10 million masks over the next 30 days.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

C. SCAG Connect SoCal Plan Update

Darin Chidsey, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Chief Operating Officer, reported that every four years SCAG conducts a long-range, 20-year regional transportation plan to comply with various state and federal guidelines as well as to encourage regional planning collaboration.

In May 2020, SCAG's Regional Council adopted the federal portion of the plan; however, the Council addressed concerns regarding the remaining components of Connect SoCal, including the implications of COVID-19 on some of the Plan's assumptions and findings. Several thousand transportation projects were submitted to the federal government on time; it was confirmed that the projects can move forward.

SCAG is currently holding stakeholder briefings and is looking to finalize the remaining Connect SoCal elements by September 2020.

SCAG conducted multiple rounds of peer review and 12 jurisdictions provided feedback and SCAG staff are working to incorporate the changes.

COVID-19 outreach determined that the top noted impacts to communities is lack of income to pay rent / mortgage and increased vehicle speeds on local roads. Long-term concerns include a lack of government funding for services and programs. On average, 87% of respondents noted that the Plan's goals were either as important or more important in light of COVID-19.

Adjustments to the data will be minor and will not significantly impact the overall modeling results of the plan.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

D. Innovation 2030 Activities Update

Elisa Laurel, WRCOG Program Manager, reported that Innovation 2030 is an initiative that seeks to deliver world-class programming that connects entrepreneurs to employers, coupled with a mission to build an innovation-driven economy by the year 2030.

WRCOG's Economic Development and Sustainability Framework serves as the baseline to launch a study towards a physical sustainability center, known as Experience. The results of the study concluded that Experience would be financially viable and that it would be best situated in the City of Riverside. Innovation 2030 was created as a program for Experience.

Entrepreneurs need support in finding investment, connecting with investors, going to market quicker, and scaling their business – or they will leave the region.

Innovation 2030 is built on the best practices of Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator, which created \$625M in long-term economic value and \$250M in revenue for the Los Angeles area.

WRCOG sought a consultant team – Network for Global Innovation – that has experience with bringing world-class entrepreneurship programming experience. Next steps with NGIN include identifying possible funding opportunities. One potential funding opportunity could come from AB 3205 (as amended, Salas. Regions Rise Grant Program).

Under Innovation 2030, WRCOG hopes to coordinate with the City of Riverside and the University of California, Riverside, to merge efforts in an equitable manner to benefit all; to continue applying for any available grant funding; and to develop a coalition of partners to pursue funding through AB 3205 and/or any other grants which may be available.

Committee member Karen Spiegel asked if jurisdictions other than the City of Riverside would be able to participate in this Program.

Ms. Laurel responded that the intent of this Program is to allow participation of all jurisdiction in this subregion.

- Actions:***
1. *Directed staff to continue with current efforts to secure funding for this initiative.*
 2. *Directed staff to return with an update on the results of these efforts by March 31, 2021.*

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER:	Riverside
SECONDER:	Moreno Valley
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar, District 2, District 5, EMWD, WMWD
ABSENT:	Hemet, District 1, District 3, Morongo Band of Mission Indians

E. Activities Update from the Eastern Municipal Water District / Western Municipal Water District

Paul Jones, Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) General Manager, reported that the two water districts are working together to advance a project to develop a substantial, new, reliable water supply for this subregion, and to address the ground water contamination of the Perris North Groundwater Basin. In 2017, a groundwater pumping and purification strategy was created for the Basin. A grant in the amount of \$45M was awarded for this project. Water from this project will cost approximately 35% less than imported water. The project is scheduled to be operational in mid-2023.

Brenda Dennstedt reported that local water districts are conducting more than 80,000 water quality tests annually to ensure that the water utilized throughout the region is safe. WMWD has suspended all water shut-offs due to non-payment. Residential water usage has increased only slightly.

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

D. Activities Update from the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Judy White, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools, reported that the Governor has ordered that distance learning is mandated in all counties on the state monitoring list.

Given the mandate, Riverside County schools will be distance learning until the County is off the State Watch List. As opposed to the spring 2020 distance learning, the upcoming school year will include a new model that incorporates a full day of live instruction, assessments, progress reports, and parent communication requirements. Teachers have the choice of teaching from home or from the school.

Dr. White called on regional leaders to support families in this difficult time through donations, implementation of broadband WIFI, or other RCOE initiatives such as childcare services.

Committee member Rusty Bailey asked what the biggest need is in connecting students and parents to the internet.

Dr. White responded that connectivity is the biggest struggle. Some cities have installed cell towers for broadband and WIFI throughout their jurisdiction.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

6. REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR

Andy Okoro, Technical Advisory Committee Chair, was not present.

7. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Brian Tisdale, California Association of Councils of Governments representative, reported that the Board discussed opposing racism and addressing inequality. A subcommittee was formed to review issues and policies relating to these matters.

8. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rick Bishop reported that WRCOG's Grant Writing Program continues to bring in considerable dollars to the subregion. The City of Riverside was awarded \$31.2M from the State of California's Strategic Growth Council to boost the City's plans for integrated transit, urban greening, and affordable housing. The County of Riverside was awarded \$567k from the Department of Defense for a joint land use study for the March Air Reserve Base.

WRCOG's monthly Future Forward webinar series continues to be successful; last month's issue of the month related to transportation issues and how they are being impacted by COVID-19.

Some of the upcoming potential projects that WRCOG will be pursuing includes the formation of an Economic Development Corporation, a Regional Housing Trust, and a GIS Service Bureau.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general announcements.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., on the Zoom platform.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.
