



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

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City Managers' Steering Committee

Date: March 19th, 2009

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: El Monte City Hall

1.0 Preliminary Business

1.1 Call to Order

J. Mussenden called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

1.2 Roll Call / Introductions

Members Present:

Alhambra	J. Fuentes
El Monte	J. Mussenden
Glendora	C. Jeffers
San Dimas	B. Michaelis
San Gabriel	M. Paules

Members Not Present:

Diamond Bar
La Canada Flintridge
San Marino

SGVCOG Staff:

N. Conway, Executive Director
B. Cooke, Staff
M. Creter, Staff

Guests:

D. Howden
J. McDermott

2.0 Preliminary Business

3.0 Public Comment

4.0 Changes to Agenda Order; Identify Subsequent Need or Emergency Items

5.0 Consent Items

- 5.1 Notes from February 10th, 2009 meeting
There were no changes to the minutes.

6.0 Discussion Items

6.1 Homeless Services Needs Assessment Study Draft Final Report

D. Howden gave a presentation on this item. This phase of the homeless study focuses on developing implementation strategies for meeting the needs and service gaps identified in Phase 1 of the report. These strategies were developed through a consensus building process that engaged all relevant stakeholders including non-profit and community-based organizations, cities, and the County of Los Angeles. The implementation strategies were focused on three main areas: building capacity, increasing resources and strengthening political will. One of the primary recommendations in the report was the development of an umbrella organization (possibly a 501.c.3) that would be responsible for coordinating the non-profit and faith-based homeless service providers throughout the San Gabriel Valley. This organization would provide linkages to resources for these organizations as well as serve as a central point of contact for cities seeking homeless services for their residents.

Following the presentation, committee members raised the following issues:

- Community and faith-based organizations should play the lead role in implementation and cities should play a supportive, partnering role
- The report should be clarified to indicate that it recommends small & medium facilities for short-term housing beds and not large facilities and that identified targets are for the entire cluster, or the region as a whole, and not specific to the city-level
- The report should more clearly address the development of a voucher system for homeless services
- The report should expand upon the “principles” to ensure that the plan is successful, and if it were to fall apart, the responsibility for implementation does not fall to the cities
- The following additional principles should be added:
 - Cities will not be asked to take on more than their fair share of responsibility
 - This agency will not assume the County’s social service responsibilities, but rather facilitate the appropriate implementation of those services
- The report should clarify that the target production numbers are attached to available resources
- Can there be some component of legal advocacy to investigate whether cities can use their 20% low/mod housing set aside to provide assistance to non-profit organizations and get credit in their housing elements?

The consultants will incorporate the recommended revisions into the report and re-submit it for review and action at the Committee’s April 7th meeting.

6.2 FY 2009-2010 Budget

The Executive Director gave a brief report on this item. He stated that the financial position of the COG is strong and that next year’s budget projects a surplus of \$106,000, which will be put towards building the Agency’s reserves. He also stated that the draft budget does not recommend an increase in dues, and that there may be additional dues income due to the reactivation of Temple City and Bradbury’s memberships.

This item will be brought back to the Committee in April for action.

6.2.1 AB 2766 Funds

The Executive Director gave a report on this item. He stated that typically cities use a portion of their AB 2766 funds for payment of their COG dues. While the use of AB 2766 funds for COG dues has always been an allowable use of these monies, as the AQMD receives additional mandates from the California State Air Resources Board (ARB) to demonstrate calculable emissions reductions, they are developing more stringent requirements for how cities may use these funds. This year, the AB 2766 Resource Guide indicates that no more than 10% of a city’s funds may be used for research and development projects. For the purposes of this funding, COG dues fall under this 10% cap. Therefore, cities need to ensure that the total funding for all R&D or planning projects (including COG dues) does not exceed 10% of the total funds received by that agency.

COG staff is continuing to work with staff at the AQMD to ensure that all COG projects completed using AB 2766 funds are allowable under this program. COG staff will also continue to keep member agencies informed regarding use of these funds as additional information becomes available.

6.3 Update on Federal Economic Stimulus Package

The Executive Director gave a report on this item. He stated that the COG hosted a workshop for our member agencies on March 2nd on accessing the federal economic stimulus funds available for transportation projects that is being distributed by Metro. This event, which was very well attended, provided member agencies with information about the process for accessing these federal economic stimulus funds, including the Metro guidelines on trading/swapping of funds. However, he indicated that in the week that followed the workshop there were concerns about cities that entered into trades

involving general funds that were not dollar for dollar. However, it appears that currently all of these issues have been resolved.

Committee members asked questions about the additional categories of funding that will be available (including energy-efficiency and water). Staff stated that they will continue to keep member agencies informed as information is released. Committee members also asked for information about the requirement that economic stimulus funds supplement rather than supplant existing funds. Staff stated that they will research this issue and provide available information to the Committee.

6.4 City of Industry Funds Technical Assistance

The Executive Director gave a report on this item. He stated that Los Angeles County Community Development Commission has developed a proposal, including a draft scope of work, to provide free consultant services to our member agencies in the development of applications for City of Industry affordable housing funds. He asked the Steering Committee to review the proposal and provide comments and feedback prior to finalization of the scope of work. The availability of these consulting services has been a long-term objective of the COG's Housing Committee, and it is expected that it will increase our member agencies' ability to access these funds.

6.5 Update on SB 375 Working Group

The Executive Director gave an update on this item. He stated that the SB 375 working group continues to monitor this issue and that SCAG has released a draft "strawman" methodology for review. He stated that SCAG would be distributing baseline growth forecasts to all cities in the coming weeks. In order to create a model that would meet the emission reduction targets for the region, SCAG staff anticipates releasing a policy growth forecast that pivots off the Compass 2% forecast that was developed as a part of the 2008 RTP. However, there would be two important changes: 1) there will be no shift in population across County lines and 2) no jurisdiction will have their population changed by more than +/- 10%. Once SCAG releases these draft growth forecast numbers, the SB 375 will review and develop a presentation for the Governing Board.

6.6 Status of Legal Contract

The Executive Director stated that following a public procurement and proposal review process, he will be recommending to the Governing Board award of a contract with Jones & Mayer to serve as General Counsel for the COG. The contract will be for a five year period beginning on April 2009 and ending on June 2013.

6.7 AQMD Air Quality Institute – March 26th

The Executive Director encouraged committee members to attend this event, which was scheduled in partnership with the AQMD in response to requests from the Planners' TAC. It will provide information about AQMD's participation in implementation of AB 32 and SB 375 as well as other air quality issues that will impact our member agencies.

6.8 San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Kickoff – March 25th

The Executive Director encouraged committee members to attend this event, which will provide information about energy-efficiency opportunities.

7.0 New Business items for Next Regular Meeting

7.1 Presentation on ACE Financials

This presentation will be given at the April City Managers' Steering Committee.

8.0 Announcements

9.0 Next Meeting

The next City Managers' Steering Committee is scheduled for April 7th.

10.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.