

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

A JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

ELEVENTH AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS

EFFECTIVE APRIL 15, 2021

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BYLAWS

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

PREAMBLE

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (the "Council") is an agency voluntarily established by its Members pursuant to a Joint Powers Agreement ("Agreement") for the purpose of providing a vehicle for the Members to engage in regional and cooperative planning and coordination of government services and responsibilities to assist the Members in the conduct of their affairs. In addition, the Council will provide a regional organization for the review of federal, state, and/or regional projects and studies which involve the use of federal, state and/or regional funds, in various forms.

Article I - Definitions

The terms "ACE Construction Authority," "Agreement," "Alternate Governing Board Representative," "Council," "Governing Board," and "Governing Board Representative," as used in these Bylaws are defined in the Agreement and said definitions are incorporated herein by reference.

Article II - Membership and Representation

A. Membership. Members shall withdraw from or be admitted to the Council in accordance with Section 21 of the Agreement.

B. Representation/Members.

1. The Governing Board Representative and Alternate Governing Board Representative for a Member shall be designated by a resolution or similar official action of that Member's legislative body.

2. Names of Governing Board Representatives and Alternate Governing Board Representatives shall be communicated in writing to the Governing Board by that Member's legislative body.

3. Governing Board Representatives and Alternate Governing Board Representatives shall serve until a successor is appointed or until such time that a Representative ceases to serve in public office for his or her Member.

Article III - Governing Board

A. Powers and Duties. The powers and duties of the Governing Board, subject to the limitations of applicable law, the Agreement and these Bylaws, shall include:

1. All of the powers of the Council provided in Section 4 of the Agreement, except as may be expressly delegated to others pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement, these Bylaws or by the direction of the Governing Board shall be exercised by and through the Governing Board.
2. Making policy decisions and determining policy matters for the Council.
3. Conducting the affairs of the Council.
4. Appointing, fixing the compensation of and removing an Executive Director, establishing positions and salary schedules for staff subordinate to the Executive Director, appointing and fixing the compensation of other officers of the Council and conducting an annual performance review of the Executive Director.
5. Annually reviewing the proposed Council budget and proposed work plan submitted by the Executive Director and adopting an annual budget and a work plan.
6. Appointing Standing Policy Committees and Ad Hoc Committees, as necessary, to study specific problems, programs, or other matters which it has approved for study.
7. Based on the guidance of the General Counsel, keeping informed about and working to keep the Council in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, statutes, codes, ordinances, regulations and rules that could affect the Council or any of its activities and projects.
8. Acting upon policy recommendations including those from committees.

B. Meetings.

1. Regular meetings of the Governing Board shall be held monthly, at such time, place, and location as the Governing Board may set by resolution from time to time, unless dispensed with by the Governing Board. Special meetings of the Governing Board may be called by the President. All meetings of the Council shall be called by the President. All meetings of the Council shall be called and conducted, and an agenda posted, in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code Section 54950, *et seq.*, as it now exists or may hereafter be amended. Members shall direct their respective city clerks or equivalent officers to comply with all notice and agenda posting requirements deemed necessary by the Governing Board.
2. Fifty (50) percent plus one of current active membership shall constitute a quorum. Suspended Members shall not be counted toward a quorum.

3. The Governing Board shall adopt by resolution a policy regarding the use of electronic devices at meetings, which shall comply with all applicable laws.

C. Voting. Voting on the Governing Board shall be conducted as prescribed in the Agreement. Further, voting may be by voice, roll call or ballot vote. A roll call or a ballot vote shall be conducted upon the demand of five participating representatives, or at the discretion of the presiding officer. No secret ballots shall be employed. If ballot voting occurs all ballots must: identify the individual voting; be counted in and have the results reported in open session; and be available for public review. Further, if ballot voting is used for appointments to a committee or entity external to the Council, then all candidates are to be listed on a single ballot; only one ballot is to be completed for each Governing Board Representative or Alternate present; the candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes, which is at least a majority of those cast, is/are to be appointed consistent with the number of appointments to be made. Voting shall be reported as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950, *et seq.*). If the Governing Board is considering a vote in closed session, prior to such vote the General Counsel shall advise the Governing Board that such action must be reported out in open session, with identification of each Governing Board member's vote.

D. Conduct. All Governing Board Representatives and Alternate Governing Board Representatives shall conduct themselves in a civil, respectful, and professional manner in the performance of their duties.

Article IV - Executive Director

The powers and duties of the Executive Director of the Council, which may be modified by action of the Governing Board, are:

A. Subject to the authority of and as directed by the Governing Board, to serve as chief administrative officer of the Council and administer the affairs of the Council in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, statutes, codes, regulations and rules.

B. Except as to what may be reserved to the Governing Board, to hire, direct, discharge and remove all employees of the Council and to retain and discharge consultants and to prescribe the duties and fix the compensation thereof.

C. Annually to prepare and present a proposed budget for the Council to the Steering Committee of the City Managers' Technical Advisory Committee ("Steering Committee") and, after the approval of the Steering Committee, to the Governing Board for its approval and, after approval by the Governing Board, to maintain the expenditures of the Council within the approved budget, as may be amended from time to time by the Council.

D. Annually to prepare a proposed work plan for the Council that is consistent with the proposed annual budget and the currently effective strategic plan; to submit the proposed work plan to the Governing Board for its review, discussion, evaluation and possible adoption; and to implement the work plan adopted by the Governing Board.

E. To ensure that consultants under contract to the Council procure insurance policies that provide adequate protection to the Council and that such policies are in accord with any policy limits and policy coverage requirements directed by the Governing Board.

F. To attend the meetings of the Governing Board.

G. To perform such additional duties as the Governing Board, these Bylaws, the Agreement or applicable law may require.

Article V - Other Officers and Employees

A. Second and Third Vice Presidents. Second and Third Vice Presidents of the Council shall be elected annually as officers of the Council at the same time and in the same manner as the President and First Vice President of the Council, whose election is described in Section 11 of the Agreement. Any Governing Board Representative who is not already an officer of the Council may be elected as Second or Third Vice President. The Second and Third Vice Presidents may individually serve as President in the absence of the President and First Vice President and shall perform such duties as may be required by the Agreement, these Bylaws, or by direction of the Governing Board or the President.

B. Secretary. The Executive Director, or his or her designee, shall be the Secretary of the Council but shall not be an officer of the Council. The Secretary shall perform and/or oversee the usual and customary ministerial duties of such position.

C. Treasurer and Auditor/Controller. As set forth in Government Code section 6505, *et seq.*, in particular, section 6505.6, and Section 13 of the Agreement, the Treasurer of the Council and the Auditor/Controller of the Council may be the same person and may be a contract employee or independent contractor of the Council. If the Treasurer and Auditor/Controller are not the same person, each shall have the duties and responsibilities set forth herein. The Treasurer and Auditor/Controller shall not be an officer of the Council. The duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer and Auditor/Controller are:

1. The Treasurer and Auditor/Controller shall possess the powers described in, and shall perform those functions required by: Government Code sections 6505, 6505.5 and 6505.6; all other applicable laws and regulations, including any subsequent amendments thereto, the Agreement, these Bylaws, and/or the direction of the Governing Board.

2. The Treasurer and Auditor/Controller shall have custody of all Council funds and shall provide for strict accountability thereof in accordance with Government Code section 6505.5 and other applicable laws, or grant or other funding requirements.

3. The Treasurer and Auditor/Controller shall annually cause an independent audit to be made of the Council by a certified public accountant, in accordance with Government Code sections 6505 and 6505.6, and shall present such audit to the Governing Board at one of its meetings and be available to answer any questions.

D. General Counsel. The Governing Board shall appoint a qualified person or firm to serve as the General Counsel to the Council on any basis it desires, including, but not limited to, a contract or an employment basis. The General Counsel shall perform duties as directed by the Council, including, but not limited to, the review of meeting agendas and agenda reports, insurance policies, and policies, and procedures for compliance with state, federal and local laws, including the Brown Act.

E. Additional Officers, Employees, and Contractors. The Governing Board shall have the power to appoint, engage or employ such additional officers, employees, and independent contractors as may be appropriate. Such officers, employees, and independent contractors may also be, but are not required to be, officers and employees of the individual Members. None of the officers, employees, or independent contractors appointed by the Governing Board shall be deemed, by reason of their employment by the Governing Board, to be employed by any of the Members or, by reason of their employment by the Governing Board, to be subject to any of the requirements of such Members.

F. Bonding Requirement. Pursuant to the requirements of Government Code section 6505.1, the Governing Board shall designate which officers or persons will have charge of, handle, or have access to any property of the Council. Each such designated officer or person shall be required to file an official bond with the Governing Board, at the expense of the Governing Board, in an amount which shall be established by the Governing Board. Should the existing bond or bonds of any such officers be extended to cover the obligations provided herein, said bond shall be the official public bond required herein. The premiums of any such bonds attributable to the coverage required herein shall be appropriate expenses of the Council. The Governing Board may also direct the purchase of appropriate insurance policies to supplement said bonds and the costs of such insurance policies shall be borne by the Council. The Council may procure an insurance policy in lieu of an official bond pursuant to Government Code section 1463.

G. Status of Members' Officers and Employees. As provided in Government Code section 6513, all of the privileges and immunities from liability and other benefits which apply to the activities of officers, agents, or employees when performing their respective functions within the territorial limits of their respective public agencies shall apply to them while engaged in the performance of any of their functions and duties extraterritorially under the Agreement.

H. Vacancies. In the event of a mid-term vacancy in an officer position, the officer in the next successive position shall fill that position for the remainder of the term, and every successive officer below shall accordingly move up one position. The Executive Committee shall recommend candidates to the Governing Board for the remaining vacant position, and the Governing Board shall hold an election for that position. The order of succession shall be as follows: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Third Vice President.

I. Election of Officers. In the event an election of new officers is not held prior to the expiration of the terms of those current officers, the terms of those current officers shall extend automatically, and the current officers will continue to serve in their respective

positions until an election of new officers is held. Officers shall be elected by vote of a majority of those voting.

Article VI - Committees

A. Technical Advisory Committees. The Council shall establish three Technical Advisory Committees (“TAC”), one consisting of city managers, one of planning/community development directors and one of public works/transportation directors of the Members as approved by the Governing Board. The Governing Board may establish additional TACs as it deems necessary and/or beneficial to the Council. Each TAC shall be established for the purpose of providing input, as may be requested by the Governing Board, a Council committee or as determined by the TAC itself, to report to the requesting body on matters including but not limited to Council work programs, budgets, priorities, policies, programs and practices.

Each TAC member may designate an alternate to serve in the absence of, and vote on behalf of, the member. Each TAC shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair by a majority vote of the members of the TAC. The Chair of each TAC shall sit as an ex officio, non-voting Representative to the Governing Board and an ex officio non-voting member of the Executive Committee and may make recommendations directly to the Governing Board and/or the Executive Committee. The Chief Executive Officer of the County or his or her designee shall be a member of the City Managers’ TAC (“CMTAC”) and shall be the sole representative of the County to the CMTAC. Each Governing Board Representative for the County shall be entitled to appoint one member to the Planning/Community Development Directors’ TAC and to the Public Works/Transportation Directors’ TAC. The Governing Board Representative of each Member of the Council that is neither a city nor a county shall be entitled to appoint one member to each of the three TACs. A quorum of each TAC shall be forty percent (40%) of its membership and all actions will be by a majority of those members present with a quorum in attendance. Each TAC shall meet in accordance with a schedule determined by the TAC and all meetings will be held in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950, *et seq.*).

B. City Managers’ Steering Committee. There shall be a Steering Committee of the CMTAC (“City Managers’ Steering Committee”), to provide assistance and support to the full CMTAC, the Governing Board and/or the Executive Committee and to oversee certain policy and financial matters for the Council.

The City Managers’ Steering Committee shall meet at least quarterly. A quorum of the City Managers’ Steering Committee shall be forty percent (40%) of its membership and all actions will be by a majority of those members present with a quorum in attendance. All meetings of the City Managers’ Steering Committee shall be held in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950, *et seq.*).

The Steering Committee shall: together with the Treasurer/Auditor recommend the independent auditor for the annual audit of the Council and all of its special funds, develop the scope of work for the audit, and review and comment on the preliminary and final audit reports prior to their presentation to the Executive Committee and the Governing Board; oversee the

investment of Council funds in accordance with the Council's investment policy; review and modify the Council's investment policy when required; review, as necessary, those insurance policies purchased for the benefit of the Council including policies purchased by consultants working for the Council; monitor compliance of the Council with applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, statutes, codes and regulations; and undertake those additional assignments as directed by the Governing Board. The Steering Committee shall also review and monitor all matters related to the Council's financial affairs including reviewing quarterly financial reports, audits conducted by external auditors and agencies, grant compliance and bond issuance as well as any matters related to best management practices or state/federal requirements.

C. Standing Policy Committees and Ad Hoc Committees. The Governing Board may establish Standing Policy and Ad Hoc Committees. The Standing Policy Committees shall be established for the purpose of developing policy recommendations to the Governing Board or the Executive Director in specific functional areas consistent with the overall mission of the Council. Standing Policy Committees may be created to address transportation, solid waste and environmental matters and other matters considered important by the Governing Board. Ad Hoc Committees shall be formed to study and advise on specific matters of concern to the Governing Board. All Committees shall have a clearly defined purpose. The President of the Governing Board may, as he or she deems necessary, create President's Ad Hoc Committees and appoint their members, for limited terms and advisory purposes only. President's Ad Hoc Committees shall consist only of Governing Board Members, less than a majority of a Governing Board quorum, and shall not be subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

The Governing Board shall appoint the members ("Committee Members") of the Standing Policy and Ad Hoc Committees each June and, as appropriate throughout the year, with the intention of encouraging maximum participation in committee activities. Committee Members shall be Governing Board Representatives, Alternate Governing Board Representatives, city council members or County supervisors, city managers, or city or County staff, but no city, member agency, or County District may have more than one Committee Member on any Standing Policy or Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee Members of the Standing Policy Committees shall be appointed for terms which shall expire, regardless of the appointment date, at the end of the Fiscal Year of the Council as defined in Article VII. C. The Committee Members of Ad Hoc Committees shall be appointed for terms that coincide with the term of the respective Ad Hoc Committee or the end of the fiscal year of the Council, whichever may come first. The term of a Committee Member representing a Member of the Council or County District that has withdrawn or been suspended in accordance with Section 21 of the Agreement shall be concluded or suspended upon the effective date of the withdrawal or suspension of said Member of the Council or County District. In appointing Committee Members of the Standing Policy and Ad Hoc Committees, the Governing Board shall consider regional representation.

A quorum of each Standing Policy Committee shall be forty percent (40%) of its membership. A quorum of each Ad Hoc Committee shall be a majority of its membership. All actions taken by either type of Committee will be by a majority of those Committee Members present with a quorum in attendance. All Standing Policy and Ad Hoc Committees shall be chaired by a Governing Board Representative or an Alternate Governing Board Representative and the

Chair of each Committee shall be selected by a majority vote of the Committee Members. All meetings of the Standing Policy and Ad Hoc Committees shall be held in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950, *et seq.*). All Committee Members of Standing Policy and Ad Hoc Committees shall be voting members unless limited voting is approved for a Committee by the Governing Board upon the recommendation of the Chair of that Committee. All Committee Members of Standing Policy and Ad Hoc Committees may designate an alternate to act on their behalf at any Committee meeting (“Alternate Member”). Each Alternate Member so designated may vote on behalf of the Committee Member the Alternate Member represents. If a Committee Member or his/her Alternate Member is absent from three consecutive meetings of any Standing Policy Committee, then the membership of the Committee Member will be terminated, however, subsequent re-appointment to the Standing Policy Committee can be made by the Governing Board. A Committee Member or his/her Alternate Member may be removed for cause, including but not limited to, committing misconduct, acting in violation of the Council’s conflict of interest code, or otherwise causing harm to the Council, by a two-thirds vote of Members attending a Governing Board meeting.

When the Governing Board or any Technical Advisory Committee deems it appropriate to have representation by district within the San Gabriel Valley, the following descriptions of each district shall be used:

- § Northeast: Azusa, Claremont, Glendora, La Verne, San Dimas
- § Southeast: Covina, Diamond Bar, Industry, La Puente, Pomona, Walnut
- § Central: Baldwin Park, El Monte, Rosemead, South El Monte, Irwindale, West Covina
- § Southwest: Alhambra, Montebello, Monterey Park, San Gabriel, South Pasadena, Temple City
- § Northwest: Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, La Canada Flintridge, Monrovia, Pasadena, San Marino, Sierra Madre

D. Capital Projects and Construction Committee. There shall be a Capital Projects and Construction Committee, whose members will be appointed by the Governing Board. One Governing Board Member shall be appointed from the Members of each of the five districts in the Council. The cities in each district shall nominate their respective district representative for the Committee and an Alternate and the Governing Board shall ratify the appointments. The President of the Council shall be a Member of this Committee. A Los Angeles County Supervisor who represents a part of the San Gabriel Valley shall also serve as a Committee Member. Members may be re-appointed for up to three terms. The members of the Alameda Corridor East Construction Authority Board members holding office at the time of approval of these amended and restated By-Laws will each serve as a voting Member of the Committee until the ACE grade

separation project(s) within their respective cities have been completed and a Notice of Completion has been filed, and no replacement member shall be appointed.

The Committee shall be chaired by a Governing Board Representative or an Alternate Governing Board Representative selected by a majority vote of the Committee Members. All Committee Members shall be voting members unless limited voting is approved by the Governing Board upon the recommendation of the Chair of that Committee. The Committee's quorum shall be fifty percent of the Committee Members. All actions taken by the Committee will be by a majority of those Committee Members present with a quorum in attendance. If a Committee Member is absent from three consecutive meetings Committee, then the membership of the Committee Member will be terminated. A Committee Member or his/her Alternate Member may be removed for cause, including but not limited to, committing misconduct, acting in violation of the Council's conflict of interest code, or otherwise causing harm to the Council, by a two-thirds vote of Members attending a Governing Board meeting. The term of a Committee Member representing a Member of the Council or County District that has withdrawn or been suspended in accordance with Section 21 of the Agreement shall be concluded or suspended upon the effective date of the withdrawal or suspension of said Member of the Council or County District.

In the event of a vacancy on the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, the Alternate from that district shall become the Committee Member and the district will nominate a new Alternate for appointment by the Governing Board.

The Capital Projects and Construction Committee shall report to the Governing Board, communicating with the Governing Board through the Executive Committee. It shall advise and make recommendations for a plan of construction projects throughout the San Gabriel Valley for which Council staff will seek funding through available revenue and grants. The Governing Board shall have final approval authority with respect to any such project and related Implementation Agreements. However, to facilitate implementation of approved projects, the Committee, subject to such restrictions imposed by Federal, State and local governmental entities and by the Governing Board, shall have the following powers to act on behalf of the Council:

1. To approve contracts for execution by the Executive Director, including public works contracts and contracts for environmental review, design, materials and construction, and for the services of engineers, consultants, planners, and single purpose public or private groups, on behalf of and in the name of the Council;

2. On behalf of and in the name of the Council, to acquire by purchase, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, maintain or dispose of in whole or in part, land, facilities and appurtenances necessary or convenient for the completion of the approved projects. The Capital Projects and Construction Committee shall initially hear all resolutions of necessity in accordance with the notice and hearing requirements in the Eminent Domain Law, Code of Civil Procedure sections 1230.010-1273.050. Upon close of the hearing, the Capital Projects and Construction Committee shall determine whether the resolution of necessity is to be adopted. Any person who has appeared before and/or submitted written comments to the Capital Projects and Construction Committee shall be deemed to have appeared before and/or submitted such comments directly to

the Governing Board and to the extent of such appearance and/or comments, exhausted their administrative remedies. Any recommendation of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee to adopt a resolution of necessity and any public comments received at the hearing thereon shall then be transmitted to the Governing Board for a final decision on the resolution of necessity;

3. To provide for or obtain insurance for the Council and its agents, officers, and employees;

4. To conduct studies to satisfy the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act approvals, and to certify such studies and reports;

5. To make grant applications, approve of designs and plans, obtain agency permits, and authorize all actions necessary for the funding, design and construction of projects within or outside of the San Gabriel Valley approved by the Governing Board;

6. To oversee the construction of projects approved by the Governing Board, including public bidding, contracting, building, change orders, final acceptance, filing of a Notice of Completion (which shall be required for all projects), and any related litigation.

The powers of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee shall be exercised only in furtherance of projects approved by the Governing Board. A quorum of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee shall be a majority of its voting members and all actions shall be by a majority of its members present with a quorum in attendance. All meetings of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee shall be held in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950, *et seq.*). The Committee shall keep itself informed of and comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, statutes, codes, ordinances, regulations and rules governing the implementation of projects. Decisions of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee may be called up for review by the Governing Board upon the written request of at least seven (7) Members of the Governing Board made within ten (10) days of the decision to be reviewed. Any such review must be agendized for the next regular Governing Board meeting which is not less than ten (10) days after the call for review is made and shall be acted upon at such meeting. No review may be sought of the following decisions of the Committee, which shall be final, except where the Committee's action does not follow staff's recommendation.

1. Any decision not to adopt a resolution of necessity.
2. Approval of professional services agreements necessary to implement projects such as design, architectural, engineering, construction management, right of way acquisition, and property management.
3. Approval of bid specifications for approved projects and the conduct of public works bidding.

4. Determinations of disqualification of bidders as non-responsive or non-responsible.
5. Bid award protests.
6. Obtaining any ministerial permits necessary to construct a Governing Board approved project.
7. Approval of permit applications to regional agencies such as SCAQMD, SCAG, Regional Water Boards, etc.
8. Approval of change orders which do not require obtaining additional funding.
9. Final acceptance of projects when completed.

D. Executive Committee. The elected officers of the Council, the most recent past President of the Council who is currently serving as a Governing Board Delegate, and the Chairpersons of all Council Standing Policy Committees, shall comprise an Executive Committee, whose Chairperson shall be the President of the Council. Each of these members shall have one vote. The Chairpersons of the TACs and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority San Gabriel Valley Sector Board of Directors Appointee shall be ex officio, non-voting members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will meet monthly with the Executive Director on a date and at a location selected by the Executive Committee to consider and provide guidance on matters being considered for inclusion on Governing Board agendas and on other matters as directed by the Governing Board. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be a majority of its voting members and all actions shall be by a majority of its members present with a quorum in attendance. All meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950, *et seq.*).

Article VII - Budgets, Dues and Disbursements

A. Annual Budget. The Governing Board shall adopt a Budget annually prior to July 1 of each calendar year. The Budget shall: present projected revenues by source and by program on both a quarterly and annual basis; present projected expenses categorized by type of expense and by program both on a quarterly and annual basis; include separate schedules for special programs of the Council showing projected revenues and projected direct and allocated expenses; include a summary balance sheet for the current fiscal year and for the budget year; include projected capital expenditures; include comparisons between the budget, and the estimated actual current year results; and include the projected year-end cash position of the Council.

B. Budget Amendments. The Governing Board may, at any time, amend the budget to incorporate additional income and disbursements that might become available to or be required of the Council during a fiscal year.

C. Fiscal Year. The Council shall be operated on a fiscal year basis beginning on July 1 of each year and continuing until June 30 of the next year.

D. Accounts. All funds shall be placed in appropriate accounts and the receipt, transfer, or disbursement of such funds shall be accounted for in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to governmental entities and pursuant to

Government Code section 6505 and any other applicable laws. There shall be strict accountability of all funds. All revenues and expenditures shall be reported to the Governing Board.

E. Expenditures within Approved Annual Budget. All expenditures shall be made within the approved annual budget as may be amended from time to time. No expenditures in excess of those budgeted shall be made without the approval of the Governing Board.

F. Audit. The records and accounts of the Council shall be audited annually by an independent certified public accountant, in compliance with Government Code sections 6505.5 – 6505.6, and copies of such audit report shall be filed with each Member of the Council and any other entities required by Government Code section 6505 no later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of said audit by the Governing Board.

G. Dues. The Members of the Council shall be responsible for payment to the Council, annually, of dues in the amounts annually budgeted by the Governing Board for the operating costs of the Council (“Dues”). If there is any proposed change to the method by which dues are calculated, thirty (30) days’ notice shall be provided to Members prior to the meeting at which the proposed change will be considered. Thirty (30) days’ notice shall be provided to Members of the date by which Dues are to be submitted, which shall be July 1st each year.

The Governing Board may waive dues or approve payment arrangements of dues as it deems appropriate.

H. Uses of Funds. Grant funds received by the Council from any federal, state, or regional agency to pay for budgeted expenditures for which the Council has received all or a portion of said funds from the parties hereto shall be used as determined by the Governing Board and in accordance with the terms of any such grants and applicable laws.

Article VIII - Amendments

These Bylaws may, from time to time and at any time, be amended or repealed, and new or additional bylaws adopted, by approval of the Council, provided, however, that the Bylaws may not contain any provision in conflict with any applicable laws or with the Agreement. Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by a Governing Board Representative. Any Amendment shall be submitted to the Governing Board at a meeting at least one month prior to the meeting at which the Amendment is voted upon. A vote of fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the total voting membership of the Governing Board is required to adopt an Amendment.