



SGVCOG Governing Board Approved Minutes

Date: March 18, 2021
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
M. Clark called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
J. Santana led the Governing Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call
A quorum was in attendance.

Governing Board Members Present

Alhambra	Adele Andrade-Stadler
Arcadia	April Verlato
Azusa	Robert Gonzales
Bradbury	Richard Barakat
Claremont	Ed Reece
Covina	Patricia Cortez
Diamond Bar	Nancy Lyons
Duarte	Jody Schulz
El Monte	Maria Morales
Glendora	Michael Allowos
Industry	Cory Moss
Irwindale	Albert Ambriz
La Cañada Flintridge	Keith Eich
La Puente	Gabriel Quinones
La Verne	Tim Hepburn
Monrovia	Becky Shevlin
Montebello	Scarlet Peralta
Monterey Park	Peter Chan
Pasadena	Victor Gordo
Pomona	Tim Sandoval
Rosemead	Margaret Clark
San Dimas	Denis Bertone
San Gabriel	Jason Pu
San Marino	Susan Jakubowski
Sierra Madre	Rachelle Arizmendi
South El Monte	Gloria Olmos
South Pasadena	Diana Mahmud
Temple City	Cynthia Sternquist
Walnut	Allen Wu

Absent

Baldwin Park

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter, Executive Director
D. DeBerry, General Counsel
E. Shen, Staff
P. Hubler, Staff
C. Sims, Staff
B. Acevedo, Staff
K. Ward, Staff
A. Fung, Staff
S. Matthews, Staff
S. Hernandez, Staff
A. Bordallo, Staff
S. Pedersen, Staff

West Covina Tony Wu
L.A. County District #1 Edith Gonzalez
L.A. County District #4 Lauren Yokomizo
L.A. County District #5 Dave Perry
SGV Water Districts Jennifer Santana

4. Public Comment

J. Salinas and C. Howarth provided written public comments requesting the Governing Board to issue a vote of no confidence in Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascon. The written public comments can be found in Attachment A.

5. Changes to Agenda Order

There were no changes to the Agenda Order.

LIAISON REPORTS

No verbal report was given unless otherwise noted.

- 6.** Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority
- 7.** Foothill Transit
- 8.** Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- 9.** San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC)
- 10.** San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District (SGVMVCD)
- 11.** Southern California Association of Governments
- 12.** League of California Cities
- 13.** San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership (SGVEP)
- 14.** South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SGVCOG President, Margaret Clark, provided a report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SGVCOG Executive Director, Marisa Creter, provided a report.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

SGVCOG General Counsel, David DeBerry, provided a report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 15.** Transportation Committee
SGVCOG Transportation Committee Chair, Jason Pu, provided a report.
- 16.** Homelessness Committee
SGVCOG Homelessness Committee Chair, Becky Shevlin, provided a report.
- 17.** San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Board
San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Chair, Jed Leano, provided a report.
- 18.** Energy, Environment and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee

SGVCOG EENR Committee Chair, Denis Bertone, provided a report.

19. Water Committee

SGVCOG Water Committee Vice Chair, Diana Mahmud, provided a report.

20. Capital Projects and Construction Committee

SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee Chair, Tim Sandoval, provided a report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

21. Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Action: Adopt Governing Board minutes.

22. Monthly Cash Disbursements/Balances/Transfers

Action: Approve Monthly Cash Disbursements/Balances/Transfers.

23. Committee/TAC/Governing Board Attendance

Action: Receive and file.

24. 11th Amended and Restated By laws

Action: Authorize staff to place the proposed Eleventh Amended and Restated Bylaws ("Proposed Bylaws") on the agenda for the Governing Board's consideration at its next regular meeting.

25. Update Measure M MSP Subregional Fund Programming

Action: Adopt Resolution 21-13 updating the SGVCOG Measure M MSP 5-Year Plan fund programming.

26. Support – Senate Bill 15 (Portantino): Incentives to Provide Workforce Housing at Commercial Sites

Action: Adopt Resolution 21-14 supporting Senate Bill 15 (Portantino) and direct staff to work with the bill's author and co-authors to seek clarification, possibly make modification to the bill to improve its efficacy in delivering affordable housing, and provide updates on the bill as necessary.

27. Homelessness Coordination Quarterly Report

Action: Receive and file.

28. Support – Senate Bill 765 (Stern/Friedman): Setbacks for Accessory Dwelling Units

Action: Adopt Resolution 21-15 supporting Senate Bill 765 (Stern/Friedman) to authorize local governments to determine side and rear setbacks for accessory dwelling units (ADUs), subject to certain conditions.

29. Oppose – Assembly Bill 377 (Rivas/Hertzberg): Water Quality

Action: Adopt Resolution 21-16 opposing Senate Bill 377 (Rivas/Hertzberg).

30. Senate Bill 426 (Rubio): Financial Capability Assessment

Action: Adopt Resolution 21-17 to support and sponsor Senate Bill 426 (Rubio) which would direct the State Water Resources Control Board to promulgate and adopt Financial Capability Assessment (FCA) guidelines.

31. Appointment of SGVCOG Representatives to the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Community Noise Roundtable

Action: Direct staff to submit a letter to the Los Angeles World Airports requesting the SGVCOG be added as a voting At-Large Member to the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Community Noise Roundtable, with Walnut City Councilmember Allen Wu serving as the SGVCOG Delegate and La Cañada Flintridge City Councilmember Keith Eich serving as the SGVCOG Alternate.

32. SGVCOG Support Letters for Congressional Funding Requests for Regional Priority Projects/Programs

Action: Authorize the President of the Governing Board to sign letters on behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments requesting the San Gabriel Valley's U.S. Representatives and Senators consider submitting Congressional requests for federal funding for the following regional transportation and affordable housing priority projects:

Project/Recipient	Amount Requested	Location	Representative/District
Affordable housing projects pipeline / SGVRHT	\$10 million	Various cities	Rep. Judy Chu / 27 th District
State Route 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Cities of Diamond Bar and Industry	Rep. Young Kim / 39 th District
Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Turnbull Canyon Rd. grade separation project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	City of Industry / unincorporated Los Angeles County	Rep. Grace Napolitano / 32 nd District
ACE Montebello Blvd. grade separation project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	City of Montebello	Rep. Linda Sanchez / 38 th District
ACE at-grade pedestrian crossing safety projects / SGVCOG	\$10 million	City of Pomona	Rep. Norma Torres / 35 th District

33. Governing Board & Committee Meeting Times

Action: Adopt Resolution 21-18 updating the Governing Board and committee meeting times and locations.

There was a motion to approve consent calendar items 21-25 and 27-33. (M/S: M. Allawos/B. Shevlin)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Bradbury, Claremont, Covina, Duarte, El Monte, Glendora, Industry, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut, West Covina, L.A. County District #1, L.A. County District #4, L.A.
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	County District #5, SGV Water Districts
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
NO VOTE RECORDED:	Diamond Bar
ABSENT:	Baldwin Park

Discussion on Item 26: Support – Senate Bill (Portantino): Incentives to Provide Workforce Housing at Commercial Sites

- A. Verlato commented that SB 15’s language is convoluted and difficult to follow and expressed concerns regarding the budget to implement policies in the bill. Ms. Verlato stated that she supports the goal to incentivize development of low-income housing and recommended Item 26’s motion be modified to direct staff to seek further clarification on SB 15’s language.
- A. Andrade-Stadler commented that the bill provides an opportunity for cities to develop housing units and expressed support for SB 15 as is.
- B. Shevlin commented that the bill’s author should provide additional clarification on the bills’ language and sought clarity on the motion to direct staff to seek clarification on the bill.
- D. Mahmud commented that there is another bill that would accomplish similar goals with zero sales tax to cities and expressed concerns to modify SB 15’s language given that the two bills would be competing with one another for support in the Legislature.
- M. Allawos inquired about the revenue sources of the sales tax. A. Verlato added that the Appropriations Committee has not determined the funding sources. SGVCOG Director of Government and Community Relations, Paul Hubler, responded that the bill can be difficult to understand given that SB 15 plans on offsetting the fiscalization of land use under which cities have an incentive to provide for commercial zoning instead of residential zoning. SB 15 proposes to take the average of 7 years of the sales tax revenue generated by a particular property and provide that in the form of a grant to cities to incentivize development of affordable housing. The bill language does not state the funding source of this program nor does it suggest that the funds would be generated from sales tax. It is also unclear which properties would be selected for compliance under this program.
- B. Shevlin inquired about the clarity of the direction for staff regarding SB 15. SGVCOG Executive Director, Marisa Creter, responded that, at the Governing Board’s approval, staff will submit a clear record of support to the sponsors and author of the bill and reach out to Senator Portantino’s office to seek additional clarification and possibly make modification on the bill’s language.
- V. Gordo commented that it is vital for the SGVCOG to support SB 15 and seek further clarification on the bill’s language and requested staff to provide an update on this bill at a later time.
- A. Verlato affirmed the goals of supporting this bill and seeking further clarification on the bill’s language.

There was a motion to approve support SB 15 and direct staff to work with the author and the co-authors to seek clarification and possibly make modification to the bill to improve its efficacy in delivering affordable housing, and provide updates on the bill as necessary. (M/S: A. Verlato/M. Allawos)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Bradbury, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, Duarte, El Monte, Glendora, Industry, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut, West Covina, SGV Water Districts
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	L.A. County District #4, L.A. County District #5
NO VOTE RECORDED:	L.A. County District #1
ABSENT:	Baldwin Park

PRESENTATION

34. Regional Homeless, Mental Health, and Crisis Response Study
 Resource Development Associates (RDA) Senior Consultant, Gina Martinez, and Senior Program Associate, Nicole Gamache-Kocol, provided a presentation on this item.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- D. Mahmud commented that the footprint and influence of the SGVCOG is large and inquired about upcoming written report. RDA representatives responded that subregional conversations within the SGVCOG are being considered to make the programs more manageable and suitable for each city’s needs. A written report will also be provided closer to the end of the year.
- B. Shevlin commented there some Board Members might not have the opportunity to view the previous presentation on CAHOOTS. SGVCOG Executive Director, Marisa Creter, responded that staff will follow up and ensure that the presentation is shared with Governing Board Members.
- M. Clark inquired whether RDA is collaborating with NAMI to address mental health issues and whether the SGVCOG is advocating for using vacant buildings to support homelessness efforts. Ms. Creter responded that the concepts have been included in the adopted White Paper and staff have been actively advocating for these efforts. Staff will continue to follow up on these endeavors. RDA representatives added that NAMI will be invited to participate in upcoming community forums.
- D. Bertone inquired whether RDA plans on partnering with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (LASD) on these efforts. RDA representatives responded that they are currently not working with the Sheriff’s Department; however, they will be connecting with LASD and other stakeholders soon.
- J. Pu requested staff or RDA representatives to provide an outline of stakeholders for Governing Board Members to provide relevant contact information to support these efforts. RDA representatives responded that an outline will be developed and shared with Governing Board Members.

35. AQMD Warehouse Indirect Source Rule (Proposed Rule 2305)
South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Deputy Executive Officer, Dr. Sarah Rees, provided a presentation on this item.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- R. Barakat inquired whether the stated warehouse rental fee increases were presented on an annual basis. AQMD representatives responded that those numbers were presented on an annual basis.
- N. Lyons commented that this may not be the appropriate time to raise fees due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and inquired Southern California's standing on air quality compared to other states and regions. AQMD representatives responded that Southern California possesses the worst air quality in the nation and commented that costs are minimized to the extent possible in the proposed program. The South Coast Basin has been given a deadline of 2023 to reach federal air quality standards. Failure to meet the federal standards can result in possible economic sanctions for the South Coast Basin.
- C. Moss commented that most of the targeted warehouses do not own trucks and that the proposed program can be seen as a double taxation on the warehouse industry. AQMD representatives responded that the proposed program is not a tax and provides an opportunity to allow greater flexibility for the industry to reduce emissions as part of larger climate actions.
- M. Clark inquired whether the federal government takes into account of air pollution particles that originates from China. AQMD representatives responded that the federal government does take those air pollution particles into account and that the proposed rule is one of many control strategies to promote clean air standards. While some of the emissions originate from China, the vast majority of the pollution is homegrown.
- M. Cacciotti commented that the warehouse industry has been a huge contributor to emission generation due to the increased online sales and delivery as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. These emissions can lead to serious health effects to local residents.
- C. Moss expressed appreciation for Board Member Caciotti's comments and urged AQMD to work with local jurisdictions when there are opportunities to create jobs in the region.
- B. Shevlin expressed concerns regarding the region's ability to sustain the increased demand for electricity and power.
- M. Allawos commented that rails and ships serve as the highest polluters in the region and recommended the AQMD to target gross polluters. M. Cacciotti responded that the AQMD is also looking at various industries, such as airports and marine ports, to address all sources of pollution. AQMD representatives added that the majority of pollution is generated from heavy duty trucks and that the District is closely monitoring emissions from ships and rails.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

B. Shevlin announced that the Governing Board and staff should begin to explore options on hosting in-person or in-person/online hybrid meetings as facilities begin to re-open.

ADJOURN

M. Clark adjourned the Governing Board meeting at 5:48pm in memory of the victims of the recent Atlanta Area Shooting.

BOARD APPROVED

April 15, 2021
Date

Marisa Creter
Marisa Creter, Secretary



Public Comment 03/18/2021

Jackson Salinas

Tue, Mar 16, 2021 at 11:57 AM

I am requesting that the Governing Board consider placing an item on the agenda for the next meeting or a special meeting to consider a No-confidence vote for District Attorney George Gascón and to support the campaign to recall him. The Santa Clarita City Council has already considered their vote unanimously for No-Confidence at their meeting and we need our cities to do the same. As shown from the website Recall George Gascón his directives have put more residents in danger including these:

CASH BAIL

There was no "working on it." Despite the votes demanding via initiative that bail was necessary, DA Gascon instituted no cash bail anyhow.

DEATH PENALTY

Gascon's policies guarantee every murderer a parole hearing in 20-30 years. At least this way they have a chance to get out and kill again.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Violent young men (17y 11m) will not be held in custody longer than age 25, even for vicious gang murders, mass killings, serial rapist-murderers, and multiple body homicides. No matter how violent an offense, or how many violent offenses a criminal commits, they will remain in juvenile courts with no exceptions. As an example, a 17 y 11 month juvenile shot and killed his 16 year old girlfriend and her 20 year old sister. Then, he burned down their apartment complex. DA Gascon firmly believes a maximum of 7 years serves justice in this case. In fact, he believes it so strongly, he refused to meet with the victim's family. No longer allowed to file strike offenses (i.e. robbery) if the juvenile is 16 or 17 at time of the offense. Instead of filing a robbery, would be required to file grand theft. No enhancements or allegations can be filed;

VICTIMS

Instead, Gascon yells at victims to "shut their mouth" because they are "uneducated." A killer one month shy of his 18th birthday shoots and kills two sisters, then burns down the families apartment house. DA Gascon demands the petition to try the 17y 11m old killer be withdrawn. The prosecutors brought the case to management and asked management to meet with the victims. Instead, Chief Deputy Joseph Iniguez, emailed the family and explained while the victim's have rights, the needs of the defendant outweighed their views and, therefore, the defendant would remain in juvenile. George Gascon still refuses to meet with the victims.

Result: Massive witness intimidation particularly in violent gang homicides and domestic violence cases. Violent cases are dismissed as there is no enforcement mechanism to necessary evidence can be presented in court.

MISDEMEANORS

Refuses to file: Resisting arrest; Prostitution Drug and alcohol crimes Driving Under the Influence (first time) Driving without a license or a suspended license Trespass (And dismissing all of these cases in misdemeanor court).

GUN POLICIES

All prior, current and future gun enhancements must be dismissed, with rare exceptions.

ELIMINATING ALL SENTENCE ENHANCEMENTS/ ALLEGATIONS

Blanket elimination of special circumstance allegations which result in Life Without the Possibility of Parole ("LWOP") no matter how heinous the crime; No hate crime, gun, gang, great bodily injury, or out of bail allegations may be attached to felony offenses.

(Update 12-18-2020: A few hate crime, great bodily injury, and gun allegations may be filed under specific and limited circumstances that rarely apply).

Repeat violent offenders (murderers, rapists, robbers, kidnappers, sex offenders, etc.) are treated as first time offenders in new felony offenses, and provided with probation or the lowest amount of prison time. This policy covers all current and past offenses. So, every second and third strike violent offender will be resentenced as if they were a first time offender and receive probation or minimum jail time. Most of them will be eligible for immediate release after the enhancements are dismissed.

PAROLE

DDAs cannot attend parole hearings, nor may DDAs oppose the release of any offender up for parole, no matter how serious or how violent the offense is.

We are asking everyone on the board to fight for the sake public safety and for violent crime victims affected by Gascóns policies.

32. SGVCOG Support Letters for Congressional Funding Requests for Regional Priority Projects/Programs: Will the funding come from the COVID-19 package that was passed by Congress last week if this gets approved?



For Public Comment

Cathy Howarth

Wed, Mar 17, 2021 at 6:55 AM

All that is necessary for evil to prevail is for good men to stand by and do nothing. Please support victims of crime and their families by issuing a vote of no confidence in George Gascon. He openly flaunts his disregard for all government officials, the justice system, and our community members. Thank you.