



SGVCOG Planners TAC Meeting Minutes

Date: October 26, 2017
 Time: 12:00 P.M.
 Location: Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
 602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 12:05 P.M.
2. Roll Call

Planners TAC Members Present

V. Reynoso; P. Lam, Alhambra
 A. Tellez, Baldwin Park
 C. Hensley; J. Golding, Duarte
 B. Donovanik; T. Bu; J. Mikaelian, El Monte
 E. Stadnicki, Glendora
 B. Jones; M. Simpson, Irwindale
 C. Jimenez; D. Castillo, Monrovia
 S. Tewasart, Monterey Park
 L. Stevens, San Dimas
 S. Reimers, Temple City
 J. Anderson, West Covina

Planners TAC Members Absent

Arcadia
 Azusa
 Claremont
 Covina
 Diamond Bar
 La Verne
 Pasadena
 Pomona
 Rosemead
 San Gabriel
 Sierra Madre
 South Pasadena
 Walnut

SGVCOG Staff/Guests

E. Wolf, Staff
 P. Duyshart, Staff
 R. Schaetzl, La Puente

3. Public Comment.

No public comment.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. Planners TAC Meeting Minutes – 9/28/2017
There was a motion to approve the minutes (M/S: B. Jones/S. Reimers).

[Motion Passed]

Ayes	Alhambra, Baldwin Park, Duarte, El Monte, Glendora, Irwindale, Monrovia, Monterey Park, San Dimas, Temple City, West Covina
Noes	
Abstain	
Absent	Arcadia, Azusa, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, La Verne, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Gabriel, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, Walnut

PRESENTATIONS

5. *City of El Monte Downtown Specific Plan Project: Presentation by Jason Mikaelian, City Planner, City of El Monte*

J. Mikaelian gave a thorough presentation to members of the Planners TAC about the City of El Monte's Downtown Specific Plan. Mr. Mikaelian touched upon a plethora of aspects of the specific plan. First, he gave an overview on the background and history of the City's downtown and its layout. He then described the area which is encompassed within the specific plan, and noted how it includes the Valley Mall and the El Monte Metro Bus Station. J. Mikaelian also noted how El Monte took plenty of steps to ensure comprehensive community engagement and input for the specific plan, including hosting stakeholder meetings, community workshops, Ad Hoc Committee meetings, and public hearings with the Planning Commission and City Council. Also included in the presentation were new planning components and zoning requirements, including height requirements, setback zoning rules, and design guidelines. Funding and financing of the specific plan itself and pertaining development projects were also covered; El Monte received a grant from LA Metro to develop its downtown specific plan, in order to enable El Monte to design a vision and plan for a more connected downtown district. Mikaelian also discussed the "Development Opportunity Reserve," which is designed to assist with funding for new development and improvement projects.

Mr. Mikaelian also fielded a few questions from members of the TAC, questions regarding:

- The role that consultants played.
- Retail use switching to restaurant use, and the relation of that to any parking issues that arise as a result.
- How El Monte handles multi-family parking.
- If developers have tried to develop under or around the strategic plan, and how to address that possible issue.

ACTION ITEMS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

6. *Staff Report: 2017 California Housing Legislation Update*

P. Duyshart drafted and distributed a staff report to the members of the Planners TAC which provided summaries of the pieces of housing legislation that were signed into law on September 29, 2017 by Governor Brown as a comprehensive "housing package." Members of the Planners TAC were also given supplementary literature and information regarding these housing bills. The Chair, C. Hensley, facilitated an open discussion on the changes to, and additions to, the State of California's housing laws. Comments and concerns which were brought up by members of the TAC included:

- Implications to Cities' "Housing Elements."
- Higher levels of State regulation and tracking.
- "Housing Element" approvals by the State, and pertaining punishment.
- Higher density standards which might cause Cities to up-zone certain property types.
- Political concerns that result from the passage of this package of bills.

UPDATE ITEMS

7. *ACE/COG Integration*

E. Wolf reviewed the decision of the Governing Board from August 17, 2017, to fully integrate the ACE and COG; the integration is to be completed by July 2018. As this time, the SGVCOG Governing Board has approved most of the integration, and wants the full integration to be in place by July 2018. E. Wolf reported that the Governing Board still has some concerns about costs and finances associated with the integration process, and has a few concerns with the

language of the revised bylaws. Wolf also stated that an Ad Hoc Integration Committee will meet, in order to facilitate the integration process; this committee can form and submit suggestions which will be sent to the Executive Committee and Governing Board. In addition, the COG is aiming to complete a personnel study by March or April of 2018; this would include trying to determine the salary ranges and benefits of different staff positions of both the ACE and COG. Wolf said that another issue that needs to be figured out is where the offices of the integrated SGVCOG will be located. Moreover, Mr. Wolf reminded members that the COG is available to meet with City Managers or City Councils to discuss the integration and JPA changes.

8. General Assembly Recap

E. Wolf provided a brief recap of the SGVCOG General Assembly, which took place on October 25, 2017. The General Assembly included interesting panels with solid speakers, and these panels and speakers covered the future of transportation, freight movement, and energy throughout the San Gabriel. The intention of these discussions and presentations was to initiate and instigate actions among Cities to take advantage of, and adapt to, changing technologies, actions, trends, needs, and demands in the San Gabriel Valley region, in order to spur local economic growth and development. The General Assembly was a successful event, and a couple of members of the TAC who attended the event commented on their experiences at the event.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

CHAIR'S REPORT

9. Solicitation of presentation topics

C. Hensley solicited topics from members. S. Reimers of Temple City shared a concern that some Cities, including his own, are having difficulty understanding, and complying with, the LA County Fire Department's Fire Code requirements. He pointed out that there is ambiguity and confusion, since LA County Fire seems to be inconsistent in what it is requiring and asking of Cities. A couple of other members of the TAC shared in this concern, too, including the City of Irwindale. C. Hensley then suggested that members should bring a specific and clear list of issues regarding LA County Fire's Fire Code ambiguities to the next Planners TAC meeting, and then the TAC as a body can figure out how to share these concerns with LA County Fire. He also noted that this topic should be an agenda item at the next Planners TAC meeting.

10. Current City Projects

There was no discussion of city projects.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nov. 30, Next Planning Directors TAC Meeting

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 P.M.