

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair George Johnson at WRCOG's office, Citrus Conference Room.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present:

Doug Schulze, City of Banning (9:41 a.m. arrival)
Bonnie Johnson, City of Calimesa (9:41 a.m. arrival)
Ernie Reyna, City of Eastvale
Gary Thompson, City of Jurupa Valley
Armando Villa, City of Menifee
Allen Brock, City of Moreno Valley
Andy Okoro, City of Norco
Moises Lopez, City of Riverside
Travis Randel, City of San Jacinto
Gary Nordquist, City of Wildomar
George Johnson, County of Riverside (Chair)
Mathew Evans, March Joint Powers Authority (9:35 a.m. arrival)
Craig Miller, Western Municipal Water District
Floyd Velasquez, Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Staff present:

Steve DeBaun, Legal Counsel
Rick Bishop, Executive Director
Barbara Spoonhour, Deputy Executive Director-Operations
Andrew Ruiz, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Christopher Gray, Director of Transportation & Planning
Tyler Masters, Program Manager
Daniel Ramirez-Cornejo, Program Manager
Andrea Howard, Program Manager
Christopher Tzeng, Program Manager
Rachel Hom, Staff Analyst
Daniel Soltero, Staff Analyst
Jessica May, Staff Analyst
Suzy Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Sofia Perez, Staff Analyst
Anthony Segura, Staff Analyst
Kyle Rodriguez, Staff Analyst
Mei Wu, Intern
Ivana Medina, Fellow
Rayza Sison, Intern
Diane Sanchez, Intern

Guests present:

Erin Sasse, League of California Cities
Alma Ramirez, WRCOG Fellow, Eastern Municipal Water District
Melanie Sotelo, Riverside County Transportation Department
Michelle Cervantes, Riverside County Transportation Department

Darcy Kuenzi, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Cordell Chavez, City of Corona
Ahab Hussain, City of Beaumont
Kristen Jensen, City of Hemet
Araceli Ruiz, County of Riverside, District 1

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair George Johnson led the members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. MINUTES

A. Summary Minutes from the October 18, 2018, Technical Advisory Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration.

Action: 1. *Approved Summary Minutes from the October 18, 2018, Technical Advisory Committee meeting.*

(Jurupa Valley / Morongo) 12 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Item 5.A was approved. The Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Murrieta, Perris, and Temecula and the Eastern Municipal Water District were not present. This item was taken out of order.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR *(Riverside / WMWD) 12 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Items 6.A – 6.K were approved. The Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Murrieta, Perris, and Temecula and the Eastern Municipal Water District were not present. This item was taken out of order.*

A. Finance Department Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

B. WRCOG Committees and Agency Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

C. Western Community Energy Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

D. Environmental Department Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

E. Regional Streetlight Program Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

F. Western Riverside Energy Partnership Activities Update

Action: 1. *Recommended that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to execute the Third Contract Amendment with Southern California Gas Company to jointly deliver the 2013-2014 Western*

Riverside Energy Efficiency Partnership Program, including the continuation of the Western Riverside Energy Partnership, through year 2019, substantially as to form.

G. TUMF Program Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and file.*

H. International City / County Management Association Activities Update

Action: 1. *Received and file.*

I. Approval of Technical Advisory Committee 2019 Meeting Schedule

Action: 1. *Approved the Schedule of Technical Advisory Committee meetings for 2019.*

J. PACE Programs Activities Update

Action: 1. *Recommended that the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to enter into contract negotiations and execute any necessary documents to include Lord Capital under WRCOG's Commercial PACE umbrella.*

K. Approval of Revised Purchasing and Procurement Policy

Action: 1. *Recommended that the Executive Committee adopt WRCOG Resolution Number 19-01; A Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments Adopting a Revised Purchasing and Procurement Policy.*

7. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. Report from the League of California Cities

Erin Sasse presented an update on Assembly Bill (AB) 11 (Chiu), Community Redevelopment Law of 2019. AB 11 allows a city or county, or two or more cities acting jointly, to form an Affordable Housing and Infrastructure Agency to fund projects such as infrastructure and affordable housing projects. Thirty percent of tax increment must be deposited into low / moderate income housing fund. Some of the key elements include annual unspecified state commitment at the discretion of the State Controller; schools will be made whole, no impact to Prop 98; and extensive upfront planning and costs required before a city or county can form an agency and receive project funding from the state.

Senate Bill 5 (Beall), a Local-State Sustainable Investment Incentive Program, creates a local-state partnership to reduce poverty and advance other state priorities finance, in part, by property tax increment. Twenty percent of the overall funding for the program shall be set aside for counties with populations of less than 200,000. Some of the pros include up to \$2 billion state investment in affordable housing and infrastructure; 50% of the funds are required to be spent on affordable housing; relies on post redevelopment tools; and allows a wide-range of agency participation. Some of the cons include less flexibility than redevelopment agencies, and fewer resources available for economic development.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

B. Santa Ana Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Compliance Program Update

Darcy Kuenzi, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, presented a bi-annual update on the MS4 permit compliance and other mandates for addressing stormwater management in the region.

The Santa Ana National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit requires City Managers for Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Norco, Perris, Riverside and San Jacinto, as well as the County Executive Officer to meet at least two times annually to discuss the NPDES MS4 Compliance Program.

These permits, issued pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act, are designed to protect lakes, rivers and streams from pollution (such sediment, oils, grease, fertilizers, animal and human waste, trash and dissolved metals) associated with urban land use. The District has created a Public Education Strategic Plan for Riverside County Permittees to comply with the educational requirements of the Permits and to foster a community wide commitment to clean water. The District is working to renew all three Permits that fall within the WRCOG subregion to the respective Regional Boards this next calendar year.

Committee member Armando Villa asked how long the permits are good for.

Ms. Kuenzi responded that the permits are good for four to five years.

WRCOG staff is working closely with the District on alternative approaches to cost-effectively address stormwater management in Western Riverside County.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

C. Public Service Fellowship Activities Update

Andrea Howard presented an overview of the Fellowship Program that launched in 2016. When the Fellowship was launched, it began partnership with WRCOG, UCR and CBU. Since then the partnership has expanded to CSUSB. Currently, the Program is operating in its third round and has 15 Fellows placed with member agencies.

Looking into the upcoming fourth round of the Program, staff has discussed several topics and ideas to focus on the sustainability and recruitment of Fellows. The Ad Hoc Committee, comprised of TAC members from Beaumont, Lake Elsinore, Moreno Valley, Temecula, and Eastern Municipal Water District, convened in November and discussed how we could create a more sustainable practice and eligibility requirements. What was found was that, historically, the recruitment process has been 100% focused on students from the partnered universities and, while staff has always considered academic standing, there has never been a minimum GPA requirement. The Ad Hoc Committee recommended making a GPA requirement threshold to all applicants.

The Ad Hoc Committee also supported expanding recruitment to additional universities within and outside of the region, with the focus on attracting students in technical disciplines in which members have expressed a need for, such as planning, engineering, and IT. As an extension of this policy, members also supported allowing all candidates with a connection to the subregion, including those who do not necessarily live or attend school here, but may be from the area.

The current practice is to place Fellows in the member agencies only, though members of the private sector and non-member public agencies have expressed interest. The Ad Hoc Committee recommended continuing the current practice for now but was open to expanding to non-member and public sector agencies in the future, provided all Program costs would be paid by the Fellow host agency.

Currently, WRCOG funds the entire Program; which if we place a Fellow in each member agency costs are \$375k per cohort. Historically, funding for the Program has come from PACE carryover revenues, which are declining. To extend Program funding, the Ad Hoc Committee recommended alternating placements at each jurisdiction every other year. Members also showed interest in directing any unused BEYOND funds to the Program when that distribution occurs. Another option discussed was a local match from that jurisdiction receiving a Fellow, but the members were reluctant to institute. With staff struggling to recruit enough qualified candidates to fill the desired number of Program seats, staff has come up with some ideas to help sustain the Program and make it more desirable for the Fellow to stay, versus leaving for employment mid-Fellowship. Some recommendations made include hiring for both full-time and part-time status. For example, currently enrolled students would be hired on in a part-time basis for nine months and recently graduated students would be hired on in a full-time basis for six to nine months. For the Fellows that would be on for nine months, they would serve a total of 20 hours per week in two separate host agencies.

Many Committee members congratulated WRCOG on this great Program.

Action: 1. *Recommended that the Executive Committee direct staff to implement the following changes to the Fellowship Program: 1) recruit Fellows from additional universities, both within and outside of the subregion; 2) expand candidate eligibility to students and recent graduates who live, work, attend school in, or are from the region and meet other minimum qualifications, 3) establish a minimum 3.0 GPA threshold for all applicants; 4) alternate Fellow placements over two years so members receive a Fellow every-other year, and 5) admit Fellows to serve in either a part-time or full-time capacity within CalPERS requirements.*

(Banning / Menifee) 14 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Item 7.C was approved. The Cities of Beaumont Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Murrieta, Perris, and Temecula, and Eastern Municipal Water District were not present.

D. Update on the Development of a Sustainability Indicators Report

Christopher Gray provided an update regarding the 2012 Economic Development and Sustainability Indicators Report (Report). When this Report was completed staff intended to serve the following four broad objectives: to provide a starting point for dialogue about sustainability and its importance in the region; provide a vision for a sustainable Western Riverside County and establish goals to inform and guide regional collaboration; define and prioritize short-term actions that WRCOG can pursue; and define initial indicators, benchmarks, and targets by which WRCOG can measure the effectiveness of efforts to create a more sustainable subregion.

The Framework identified six key areas related to the Region, including economic development, education, transportation, health, water and energy, and environment. An initial list that was established in 2012, had identified over 50 sustainability indicators, but staff had found that regular tracking and updating of this list was very difficult for many reasons. To keep the Framework relevant, WRCOG contracted with AECOM to assist with refining and updating the indicators list based on experience. After review, the indicators were paired down from approximately 40 indicators to 14.

Some of the key considerations used to refine the list of indicators from 50 to the recommended 14 included, does the indicator reflect broadly on key issues affecting the region such as water and energy use, transportation, employment, and education; is the indicator one that is commonly tracked across comparable regions; is there historical data for the indicator that would document trends; and, is data readily available for the indicator at a regional or Countywide level;

A few of the key indicators recommended for further evaluation were job growth, household income, educational attainment, healthcare facilities, violent crime, and water usage, to name a few.

Some “good” results that came out of the Study included an increase in good vs. moderate air quality days over a 3-year average. There was a reduction in violent crimes per 100k residents vs. the state average. The daily water usage per resident decreased between 2013 vs. 2017. Some of the “okay” results included that only 48% of high school graduates in Riverside County are meeting the UC/CSU requirements vs. the state average of 50%. Even though we have had a growth in jobs, the median income has decreased. This is because the jobs being brought in are low-skilled, low-paying jobs. Transportation, warehousing and manufacturing make up 27% of the growth, but do not pay much. There was a 30% growth in the food service and retail but, just like transportation, warehousing and manufacturing, the pay is not as well as it would be if we had more of jobs with higher skill levels.

Chair George Johnson asked how are we able to take these issues that arise to the next level.

Mr. Gray responded that once this information is summarized, staff plans on distributing the information via WRCOG’s website and other distribution channels. Staff also anticipates that this information will be presented at upcoming events and conferences to document how the region is performing in regard to these key items.

Committee member Armando Villa suggested the formation of a subcommittee to help work together towards issues that arise.

Committee members were in agreeance and the Cities of Banning, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Menifee, and Riverside, and the County of Riverside volunteered to be a part of this subcommittee.

Committee member Travis Randel suggested bringing in the Riverside County Office of Education to be a part of this subcommittee since education is a part of the issues.

Action: 1. *A sub committee was formed comprised of representatives from the Cities of Banning, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Menifee, and Riverside, and the County of Riverside to address issues that arise from the Indicators Report.*

(Menifee / Banning) 14 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; Item 7.D was approved. The Cities of Beaumont Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Murrieta, Perris, and Temecula, and Eastern Municipal Water District were not present.

8. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rick Bishop shared that with the new election, the Executive Committee now has 10 new members and the RCHCA has 8 new members.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee member Moises Lopez shared that the Homeless Point-in-Time is taking place January 29, 2019, from 5:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 21, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., at WRCOG's office located at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 450, Riverside.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:36 a.m.