



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*
AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE SPECIAL
MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021 – 12:30 PM

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97465790739>
Livestream Available: <https://youtu.be/oaByyPh72o>

Chair
Jason Pu
City of San Gabriel

Vice Chair
Ed Reece
City of Claremont

Members
Alhambra
Claremont
Diamond Bar
Duarte
Glendora
Industry
La Cañada Flintridge
Monterey Park
Pasadena
Pomona
San Gabriel
South El Monte
South Pasadena
Temple City
Walnut
L.A. County District #1
L.A. County District #4
L.A. County District #5

Thank you for participating in today's meeting. The Transportation Committee encourages public participation and invites you to share your views on agenda items.

MEETINGS: *Regular Meetings of the Transportation Committee are held on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 PM at the Foothill Transit Building (100 S. Vincent Avenue, Suite 200, West Covina, CA 91790).* The Transportation Committee agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government's (SGVCOG) Office, 1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Suite 10-210, Alhambra, CA 91803, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. Copies are available via email upon request (sgv@sgvcog.org). Documents distributed to a majority of the Committee after the posting will be available for review in the SGVCOG office and on the SGVCOG website. Attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording of your voice.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Your participation is welcomed and invited at all Transportation Committee meetings. Time is reserved at each regular meeting for those who wish to address the Committee. The SGVCOG requests that persons addressing the Committee refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane, or disruptive remarks.

TO ADDRESS THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: At a regular meeting, the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee during the public comment period and may also comment on any agenda item at the time it is discussed. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak are asked to complete a comment card or simply rise to be recognized when the Chair asks for public comments to speak. We ask that members of the public state their name for the record and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the Committee on a single item, the Chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of discussion. **The Transportation Committee may not discuss or vote on items not on the agenda.**

AGENDA ITEMS: The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the Transportation Committee. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the Transportation Committee can be fully informed about a matter before making its decision.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member or citizen so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar. If you would like an item on the Consent Calendar discussed, simply tell Staff or a member of the Committee.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the SGVCOG office at (626) 457-1800. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



***MEETING MODIFICATIONS DUE TO THE STATE AND LOCAL EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE THREAT OF COVID-19:** AB 361 (Rivas), signed by California Governor Gavin Newsom on September 16, 2021, authorizes local agencies to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and allows for members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or electronically to promote social distancing due to the state and local emergency resulting from the threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To follow the new provisions in AB 361 and ensure the safety of Committee Members and staff for the purpose of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at the Transportation Committee meeting scheduled for November 16, 2021 at 12:30pm will not be allowed. To allow for public participation, the Transportation Committee will conduct its meeting through Zoom Video Communications. To participate in the meeting, download Zoom on any phone or computer device and copy and paste the following link into your browser to access the live meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/97465790739>. You may also access the meeting via the livestream link on the front of the agenda page.

Instructions for Public Comments: For those wishing to make public comments on agenda and non-agenda items you may submit comments via email or participate by Zoom.

- **Email:** Please submit via email your public comment to SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, at afung@sgvcog.org at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled meeting time. Please indicate in the Subject Line of the email “FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.” Emailed public comments will be read into the record and will be part of the recorded meeting minutes. Public comment may be summarized in the interest of time, however the full text will be provided to all members of the Committee prior to the meeting.
- **Zoom:** Through Zoom, you may speak by using the web interface “Raise Hand” feature. Wait to be called upon by staff, and then you may provide verbal comments for up to 3 minutes. Public comment is taken at the beginning of the meeting for items not on the agenda. Public comment is also accepted at the beginning of each agenda item.

Any member of the public requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (626) 457-1800 or at afung@sgvcog.org.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

5 MINUTES

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment (*If necessary, the Chair may place reasonable time limits on all public comments*)

CONSENT CALENDAR

5 MINUTES

(It is anticipated that the Committee may take action on the following matters)

5. Adoption of Resolution 21-03-TC Making Specified Findings to Enable the Transportation Committee to Continue to Hold Meetings via Teleconferencing **(Page 1)**
Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 21-03-TC making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in-person, thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconference.

DISCUSSION ITEM

45 MINUTES

(It is anticipated that the Committee may take action on the following matters)

6. Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee’s Recommendation on Metro Law Enforcement Funding – Judy Gerhardt, Chief System Security and Law Enforcement Officer, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority & Nicole Englund, Chief Executive Officer Chief-of-Staff, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority **(Page 3)**
Recommended Action: Recommend the Governing Board to authorize the SGVCOG President to submit a letter to Supervisor Hilda Solis, Chair of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors, supporting the Metro staff recommendation requesting authorization at the December 2, 2021 Board meeting for \$75.2 million needed to fund law enforcement services on Metro’s transit system over calendar year 2022. The funding authorization is opposed by the Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC), which instead proposes to direct the funding amount to alternatives to traditional law enforcement services.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

5 MINUTES

7. Committee Meeting Schedule
Recommended Action: For information only.

ADJOURN

REPORT

DATE: November 16, 2021

TO: Transportation Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 21-03-TC MAKING SPECIFIED FINDINGS TO ENABLE THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE TO HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 21-03-TC making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in-person, thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconferencing.

BACKGROUND

Introduced by Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) on February 1, 2021, AB 361 codifies portions of Governor Gavin Newsom's existing Ralph M. Brown Act exemptions pertaining to teleconferencing if a local agency issues an emergency finding, and reissues it every 30 days, that it is unsafe to meet in person. Specifically, the Brown Act exemptions include requirements to provide a public teleconference location, to maintain a member quorum within the agency's jurisdiction and to provide for public comment at each teleconference location, such as a private residence. The legislation expires in December 2024. On September 16, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 361 into law, effective immediately.

A local agency wishing to rely on the provisions of AB 361 must meet one of the following criteria:

1. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or
2. The local holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or
3. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

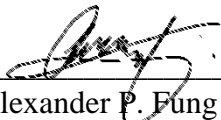
On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency in California due to the threat of COVID-19 and shortly thereafter issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain Brown Act provisions relating to teleconferencing as public meetings began to be held online.¹

¹ Similarly, on March 4, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Health Officer declared a local and health emergency due to the threat of COVID-19.


However, this Executive Order expired on September 30, 2021, despite the State of Emergency remaining in place.

The threat that COVID-19 has presented continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to conduct Governing Board/committee meetings safely in person. Updated guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in July and August 2021 advise governmental entities to refrain from conducting indoor meetings and consider moving operations outdoors, where feasible, to prevent transmission. SGVCOG staff finds it has been unable to find a suitable outdoor space with the requisite audio/visual capabilities at which the monthly committee meetings can be held safely. Similarly, an indoor space with sufficient capacity to accommodate safe social distance practices among members, staff, and the public could not be identified.

In order to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner and to prevent unnecessary COVID-19 exposure to members, staff and the public, staff is recommending that Transportation Committee adopt Resolution 21-03-TC making certain findings in order to be able to continue teleconferencing for its meetings.

Prepared by: 

Alexander P. Fung
Senior Management Analyst

Approved by: 

Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – Resolution 21-03-TC](#)

DATE: November 16, 2021

TO: Transportation Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **METRO PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S (PSAC)
RECOMMENDATION ON METRO LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNDING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommend the Governing Board to authorize the SGVCOG President to submit a letter to the Supervisor Hilda Solis, Chair of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors, supporting the Metro staff recommendation requesting authorization at the December 2, 2021 Board meeting for \$75.2 million needed to fund law enforcement services on Metro's transit system over calendar year 2022. The funding authorization is opposed by the Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC), which instead proposes to direct the funding amount to alternatives to traditional law enforcement services.

BACKGROUND

Metro contracts with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles Police Department, and the Long Beach Police Department to provide law enforcement services on its transit system. In March 2021, the Metro Board of Directors approved approximately \$36 million needed to fund six months of contracted services through December 2021. This additional funding was needed because law enforcement services were requested for events not anticipated in the original contract. The \$75.2 million authorization under consideration is needed to fund the remaining six months (January-June 2022) on the existing contract as well for an optional six-month extension in the new fiscal year (July-December 2022).

By early 2022, Metro staff intend to release a scope of work seeking alternative services to traditional law enforcement, including through transit ambassadors and mental health and homeless outreach teams. The PSAC will be engaged to review the scope of work and provide a recommendation prior to the release with the procurement process anticipated to extend into calendar year 2022. Failure to approve the funding authorization at the December 2021 meeting would result in the termination of all law enforcement services effective January 1, 2022, leaving passengers and employees without police protection and Metro staff with insufficient time to procure alternative services. Many Metro passengers and employees support greater law enforcement presence on the transit system due to significant concerns about personal safety, according to recent Metro surveys. Only 1% of passengers reportedly responded that fewer law enforcement officers were needed.

Established following the George Floyd protests of 2020, the PSAC was convened to provide input on Metro's public safety efforts in an effort to build community trust, re-envision passenger safety and provide input regarding alternatives to traditional law enforcement models. The PSAC collaborates closely with Metro's System Security and Law Enforcement, Office of the Chief

REPORT

Executive Officer, Office of Civil Rights, Office of Equity and Race, Communications Department, and Office of Customer Experience.


On November 3, 2021, PSAC's Policy Practices Ad-Hoc Committee submitted a motion to the PSAC recommending the Metro Board of Directors act on the following:


1. Allocate \$0.00 in additional funding for existing Metro policing contracts through the end of the fiscal year.
2. Return to a non-contract law enforcement model to ensure public safety on the transit system by not extending the contracts.
3. Shift the \$75 million needed through the end of the fiscal year to care and equity-centered supportive services (mental health and homeless outreach services), physical infrastructure improvements, transit ambassadors, and safety initiatives outlined in Metro's Customer Experience Plan.

After a discussion, the PSAC voted unanimously to recommend the Metro Board of Directors to act on the recommended actions which are anticipated to be reviewed by the Metro Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Committee on November 18, 2021. Metro staff will provide additional information in response to the PSAC's recommended actions at this meeting.

The Metro staff recommendation seeking the \$75.2 million authorization is proposed to include redirecting \$1.6 million to the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health to provide mental health outreach services on the Metro system, removing fare collection enforcement from the duties of the law enforcement teams, and seeking protocols for Metro access to body-worn camera footage. In addition, policy modifications, including those related to training, screening, accountability and transparency, will be recommended for Metro's contracted and in-house non-law enforcement security services.

Prepared by: 
Alexander P. Fung
Senior Management Analyst

Reviewed by: 
Paul R. Hubler
Director of Government and Community Relations

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – Proposed Comment Letter to the Metro Board of Directors](#)

[Attachment B – PSAC Agenda for November 3, 2021 Meeting](#)

[Attachment C – PSAC Video Recording for November 3, 2021 Meeting](#)