

San Diego Association of Governments

BORDERS COMMITTEE

February 22, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **1**

Action Requested: APPROVE

BORDERS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS MEETING OF JANUARY 25, 2013

The meeting of the Borders Committee was called to order by Chair John Minto (East County) at 12:35 p.m. See the attached attendance sheet for Borders Committee member attendance.

Chair John Minto welcomed the Borders Committee members and guests. He recognized the newly appointed member representative Mayor Teresa Barth, City of Encinitas (North County Coastal), alternate representative Supervisor Dave Roberts (County of San Diego), alternate representative Councilmember Lorraine Wood, City of Carlsbad (North County Coastal), alternate representative Councilmember Mark Kersey (City of San Diego), Mayor Pro Tem Bill Hodge, City of Calexico (Imperial County), and advisory member Farrah Douglas, San Diego County Water Authority to serve on the Borders Committee. Chair Minto invited Mark Baza, Executive Director, Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC), and Richard E. Backlund, Associate Division Administrator with U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to join the Borders Committee members at the table.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (APPROVE)

Action: Upon a motion by Councilmember David Alvarez (City of San Diego) and a second by Councilmember Al Ovrom (South County), the Borders Committee approved the minutes from the November 16, 2012, Borders Committee meeting. Mayor Teresa Barth (North County Coastal) abstained.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Miguel Aguirre, member of the public, spoke regarding various project matters in the community of San Ysidro and the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS). He provided a handout with additional information.

Deputy Mayor Rudy Ramirez (South County) announced he was appointed as an alternate on MTS. He and Councilmember David Alvarez (City of San Diego) commented on Mr. Aguirre's testimony. Also, Councilmember David Alvarez raised the importance of following up on the San Ysidro Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC) study.

Chair Minto (East County) announced an orientation session for new members next month that will include training for paperless agenda meetings.

CHAIR'S REPORT (3)

3. UPDATES ON THE RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPROVEMENTS OR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE (INFORMATION)

On December 21, 2012, the Board of Directors approved Resolution No. 2013-12 requesting that various federal agencies, specifically, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), consider joint efforts with local governments and private industry to finance and build new border crossing infrastructure.

Chair Minto introduced this item.

Supervisor John Renison (Imperial County) provided an update on GSA's point-of-view pertaining to this item and responded to questions. Mark Baza (ICTC) commented on this item.

Councilmember David Alvarez (City of San Diego) spoke about the Resolution and letter sent to the GSA supporting the implementation of public-private partnerships for all border projects.

Chair Minto presented the item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

REPORTS (4 through 8)

4. SUBREGIONAL REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (INFORMATION)

Members of the Borders Committee report issues and activities within their subregion that are of interest or under the purview of the Committee.

Chair Minto announced that no reports were provided.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

5. REPORT FROM THE CONSUL GENERAL OF MEXICO (INFORMATION)

The Consul General of Mexico in San Diego, Hon. Remedios Gomez-Arnau, contributes to the Borders Committee dialogue by providing periodic reports on binational activities within the purview of the Committee. This report highlighted Mexico's new ambassador to the United States.

Chair Minto, introduced the item and speaker.

Hon. Remedios Gomez-Arnau, Consul General of México in San Diego, presented the item and responded to questions. Ms. Gomez-Arnau provided a brief overview on binational activities and reported on Mexico's new ambassador to the United States.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

6. UPDATE FROM THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRIBAL CHAIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (INFORMATION)

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Chairman Mark Romero, Mesa Grande, representative of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association, briefed the Borders Committee members on issues and activities affecting tribal nations in the region and the state.

Councilmember Ed Gallo (North County Inland) commented on this item and provided a brief update of serving on the Borders Committee.

Chairman Mark Romero responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

7. STATE ROUTE 11/OTAY MESA EAST PORT OF ENTRY IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY (INFORMATION)

The State Route 11/Otay Mesa East Port of Entry project reached an important milestone in September 2012 when the Record of Decision was issued by the Federal Highway Administration for the project's Tier 2 Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report. Caltrans staff provided an update on this and other critical project milestones for this year, including completing design and right-of-way certification, and beginning construction process of Segment I.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Ed Gallo, Councilmember, City of Escondido (North County Inland), Teresa Barth, Mayor, City of Encinitas (North County Coastal), David Alvarez, Councilmember (City of San Diego), and Hon. Remedios Gomez-Arnau, Consul General of México in San Diego, commented on the financing strategy and various aspects on this item.

Richard E. Backlund (FHWA) responded to questions on this item.

Member of the public Alejandra Mier y Teran (Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce) spoke on behalf of the Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce to express their full support of this project and acknowledge that this organization understands the economic engine and window of opportunity to make this gateway of opportunity.

Mario Lopez, Director of Binational Affairs (City of San Diego), introduced himself to the Borders Committee.

Mario Orso, Corridor Director (Caltrans), presented the item, and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

8. OVERVIEW OF MEXICO'S MAQUILADORA INDUSTRY (INFORMATION)

Mexico established the Maquiladora program in 1965 to generate economic development and employment along Mexico's northern border by attracting manufacturing and assembly operations. Currently, 570 maquiladoras are established in Tijuana, generating about 160,000 jobs and exporting goods produced mostly to the United States through our region's ports of entry. This report provided an update on this economic development sector.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Rafael Solórzano Montenegro, Director de Promoción y Fomento Económico (Director of Economic Promotion, City of Tijuana), provided introductory remarks. He announced that José López (City of Tijuana) was not able to attend and expressed gratitude for being at the meeting.

Councilmember Ed Gallo (North County Inland) and Councilmember David Alvarez (City of San Diego) commented on the various manufactured items assembled by this maquiladora/manufacturing industry and current interaction between Tijuana and the United States in exporting goods.

Chair Minto and Mark Baza (ICTC) provided a few comments on products being assembled in Mexico.

President Federico Serrano (Asociación de la Industria Maquiladora de Tijuana) and Executive Director Raúl Ávila (Asociación de la Industria Maquiladora de Tijuana) presented this item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Borders Committee is scheduled for Friday, February 22, 2013.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Minto adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Attachment: Attendance Sheet

Meeting Start Time: 12:35 p.m.
 Meeting Adjourned Time: 2:16 p.m.

**CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE
 JANUARY 25, 2013
 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA/ ORGANIZATION	JURISDICTION	NAME	MEMBER/ ALTERNATE	ATTENDING
South County	City of Coronado	Al Ovrom	Member	Yes
	City of Chula Vista	Rudy Ramirez	Alternate	Yes
North County Coastal	City of Encinitas	Teresa Barth	Member	Yes
	City of Carlsbad	Lorraine Wood	Alternate	No
North County Inland	City of Escondido	Ed Gallo	Member	Yes
	City of Poway	Jim Cunningham	Alternate	No
East County	City of Santee	John Minto (Chair)	Member	Yes
	City of La Mesa	Ruth Sterling	Alternate	Yes
City of San Diego	----	David Alvarez	Member	Yes
	----	Mark Kersey	Alternate	Yes
County of San Diego	----	Greg Cox (Vice Chair)	Member	No
	----	Dave Roberts	Alternate	Yes
Imperial County	Imperial County	John Renison	Member	Yes
	City of Calexico	Bill Hodge	Alternate	No
COBRO	-----	Dr. Paul Ganster	Member	No
	-----	Vacant	Alternate	---
	-----	Vacant	Alternate	---
County of Riverside	WRCOG	S.R. Al Lopez	Member	Yes
	City of Lake Elsinore	Brian Tisdale	Alternate	No
Republic of Mexico	Consul General of Mexico	Remedios Gomez-Arnau	Member	Yes
	Deputy Consul General of Mexico	Francisco Javier Olavarria	Alternate	No
	Deputy Consul General of Mexico	Alberto Diaz	Alternate	Yes
Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association	Mesa Grande	Mark Romero	Member	Yes
	Jamul	Raymond Hunter Sr.	Alternate	No

Caltrans		Laurie Berman	Member	No
		Bill Figge	Alternate	Yes
San Diego County Water Authority		Farrah Douglas	Member	No
		Elsa Saxod	Alternate	Yes
SCAG		Rich Macias	Member	No
		Mathew Gleason	Alternate	No
County of Orange		Vacant	Member	---
	County of Orange	Bill Campbell	Alternate	No