

BORDERS COMMITTEE

July 26, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **1**

Action Requested: APPROVE

BORDERS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS MEETING OF JUNE 28, 2013

The meeting of the Borders Committee was called to order by Chair John Minto (East County) at 12:36 p.m. See the attached attendance sheet for Borders Committee member attendance.

Chair John Minto welcomed the Borders Committee members. Chair Minto announced that Phillip Johnston retired from SANDAG and introduced Michael Garcia, who will support the Borders Committee meetings, and invited Tomas Oliva (SCAG) to join them at the dais. Self-introductions were conducted.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (APPROVE)

Action: Upon a motion by Councilmember Al Ovrom, City of Coronado (South County), and a second by Chairman Greg Cox, Vice Chair (County of San Diego), the Borders Committee unanimously approved the minutes from the April 26, 2013, meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Frederic Hewett, City of Chula Vista Intern (member of public), introduced himself and provided an update on the International Friendship games held on June 1, which involved over 1,500 students in seven different sports from schools within San Diego County and municipalities in Baja California, including the first crossborder bike ride. Mr. Hewett thanked the Committee for their support.

Vice Chair Greg Cox, Chairman (County of San Diego), recognized the efforts of Councilmember Rudy Ramirez.

Chair Minto announced an upcoming community meeting to explore two design ideas for a future intermodal transportation center at San Ysidro, scheduled on July 10, 2013, located at Colonel Irving Salomon San Ysidro Community Activity Center, 179 Diza Road, San Diego, California.

CONSENT (3 and 4)

3. BORDERS COMMITTEE WORK ELEMENTS AND CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 (INFORMATION)

This report outlined the work elements and tasks included in the Fiscal Year 2014 Overall Work Program that are related to the responsibilities of the Borders Committee, as well as a draft calendar of meetings for the next Fiscal Year.

Chair Minto introduced this item.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

4. PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE 2013 SANDAG BINATIONAL EVENT "MOVING THE BORDER FORWARD: COMPETITIVENESS AND SUSTAINABILITY" (INFORMATION)

Since 1997, SANDAG has organized an annual event to address binational topics. This year the event focused on crossborder planning and collaboration upon the 20th anniversary of the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the 30th anniversary of the signing of the La Paz agreement. This report presented highlights from the 2013 binational seminar.

Chair Minto, introduced this item.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

REPORTS (5 through 10)

5. SUBREGIONAL REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (INFORMATION)

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

Chair Minto introduced this item and announced that no reports were provided.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

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

Chairman Mark Romero, representative of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) on the Borders Committee, briefed the members on issues and activities affecting tribal nations in the region and the state, including the creation on June 26, 2013, of the White House Council on Native American Affairs, and updates on SCTCA and SANDAG development of a Tribal Consultation Plan for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Chairman Mark Romero (SCTCA) presented the item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

6. REPORT FROM THE CONSUL GENERAL OF MEXICO (INFORMATION) moved item

The Office of the Consul General of México in San Diego contributes to the Borders Committee dialogue by providing periodic reports on binational activities within the purview of the Committee. This report highlighted the Joint Statement between the United States and Mexico released during the visit of President Barack Obama to Mexico in May 2013.

Chair Minto introduced this item and speaker.

Deputy Consul General of Mexico in San Diego, Hon. Francisco Javier Olavarria, spoke on behalf of Hon. Remedios Gómez-Arnau, and presented the item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

8. BORDER HEALTH EQUITY TRANSPORTATION STUDY (INFORMATION)

The SANDAG Border Health Equity Study, recently funded through a Caltrans planning grant, was initiated in February 2013. It proposes to study the health impacts and unique challenges as they relate to mobility in the San Ysidro community. The report provided an overview of the scope of work and project deliverables.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Mayor Teresa Barth, City of Escondido (North County Coastal), commented on this item. Mayor Barth asked how the findings from the studies will be used in future planning efforts.

Ed Gallo, Councilmember, City of Escondido (North County Inland), commented on this item and inquired, as we cannot reconfigure the freeways or the port of entry, what would be ultimate goal of the study related to the built environment.

Elisa Arias, Principal Regional Planner (SANDAG), commented on the item and added that the Caltrans planning grants and the findings of the studies could also serve and benefit other border areas such as Imperial County.

Tomas Oliva (SCAG) and Chair Minto further commented on the benefits of the proposed study to particular communities and which health aspects are identified to get the community involved. Chair Minto suggested considering how to promote healthy behaviors.

Vice Chair Greg Cox, Chairman (County of San Diego), suggested to consider major issues that are currently being discussed at the Community Plan Update level. One such issue is addressing the limited bicycle facilities that exist in the community, and the need for a connection to the Bayshore Bikeway.

Laurie Gartrell, Regional Planner (SANDAG), and Dr. Sherry Ryan, PhD, Planner (Chen Ryan Associates), presented the item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

9. MEXICO'S EL CHAPARRAL-PUERTA MÉXICO-PUERTA MÉXICO ESTE PORT OF ENTRY SYSTEM IN TIJUANA (INFORMATION)

This presentation provided an overview of Mexico's Bicentennial Port of Entry System expansion project (including El Chaparral, Puerta México, and Puerta México Este) and plans for multimodal transportation facilities. This Port of Entry connects to the San Ysidro border crossing and the planned reconfiguration to Virginia Avenue.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Ed Gallo, Councilmember, City of Escondido (North County Inland), commented on this item and inquired about the project location.

Elsa Saxod (San Diego County Water Authority) and Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO), commented on this item and recommended that the Committee take action on the border infrastructure and funding, and encouraged discussion of this matter further at a future meeting.

Supervisor John Renison (Imperial County) commented on this item, and supported Ms. Saxod's recommendation for the Committee to look into further research the border infrastructure.

Councilmember Al Ovrom, City of Coronado (South County), spoke on the status of GSA's plans and try to match both plans.

Gabriela Johnston, Resident of Colonia Federal, City of Tijuana (member of public), spoke on various aspects of El Chaparral expansion project and expressed the need to include green areas to decrease pollutants and contamination in the neighborhood.

Daniel Gómez-Patiño, Resident of Colonia Federal, City of Tijuana (member of public), spoke in support of this project. He also commented on the vast concrete areas of El Chaparral and the lack of green areas and encouraged SIDUE to add green areas.

Carlos Lopez, Planning Director, on behalf of Sergio Montes, State of Baja California, presented the item and responded to questions. Hector Vanegas, Borders Program Manager (SANDAG), provided translation and assisted Director Lopez with presenting this item.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

10. FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD (GNEB) TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: THE ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND HEALTH STATUS OF WATER RESOURCES IN THE U.S. - MEXICO BORDER REGION (INFORMATION)

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) requested that the GNEB 15th annual report review the status of water resources and provided recommendations for solutions that will also help address challenges created where river systems and ground water basins span the international border and where water demand continues to grow.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Mike Vizzier, San Diego County Environmental Health Department, presented the item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS (INFORMATION)

The next meeting of the Borders Committee is scheduled for Friday, July 26, 2013, at 12:30 p.m.

Chair Minto made an announcement to the Committee that Ron Saenz, Associate Regional Planner (SANDAG), will be leaving SANDAG on Wednesday, July 3, 2013, and thanked Mr. Saenz for his assistance with the Committee throughout the almost nine years of service at SANDAG.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Minto adjourned the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

Attachment: Attendance Sheet

Meeting Start Time: 12:36 p.m.
 Meeting Adjourned Time: 1:57 p.m.

**CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE
 JUNE 28, 2013
 12:30 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	No
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	No
	---	Mark Kersey	Alternate	Yes
County of San Diego	---	Greg Cox (Vice Chair)	Member	Yes
	---	Dave Roberts	Alternate	No
Imperial County	Imperial County	John Renison	Member	Yes
	City of Calexico	Bill Hodge	Alternate	No
COBRO	----	Dr. Paul Ganster	Member	Yes
	----	Vacant	Alternate	---
	----	Vacant	Alternate	---
County of Riverside	WRCOG – Western Water Board	S.R. Al Lopez	Member	No
	City of Lake Elsinore	Brian Tisdale	Alternate	Yes
Republic of Mexico	Consul General of México	Remedios Gómez-Arnau	Member	No
	Deputy Consul General of Mexico	Francisco Javier Olavarria	Alternate	Yes
	Deputy Consul General of Mexico	Alberto Diaz	Alternate	No
Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association	Mesa Grande	Mark Romero	Member	Yes
	Jamul	Raymond Hunter Sr.	Alternate	No

Caltrans		Laurie Berman	Member	Yes
		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	Coast Mesa Sanitary District	Jim Ferryman	Member	Yes
	County of Orange	Jim Dahl	Alternate	No