

BORDERS COMMITTEE

September 27, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **1**

Action Requested: APPROVE

BORDERS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS MEETING OF JULY 26, 2013

The meeting of the Borders Committee was called to order by Chair John Minto, City of Santee (East County) at 12:37 p.m. See the attached attendance sheet for Borders Committee member attendance.

Chair John Minto welcomed the Borders Committee members. Self-introductions were conducted.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (APPROVE)

Action: Upon a motion by Supervisor John Renison, (Imperial County), and a second by Councilmember Al Ovrom, City of Coronado (South County), the Borders Committee unanimously approved the minutes from the June 28, 2013, meeting, with one correction on page 3.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Miguel Aguirre, member of public, spoke on various binational regional topics affecting our border and provided his personal experiences participating in SANDAG workshops. He further commented on the San Ysidro Intermodal Transportation Center (SYITC) Study, collaboration efforts and the State of the Border Report that will be provided by Rick Van Schoik, North American Research Partnership.

CONSENT (3 and 4)

3. RECENT SANDAG EFFORTS TO SUPPORT BORDER TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE (INFORMATION)

This report summarized recent SANDAG efforts to address needs to improve the region's border-crossing capacity.

Chair Minto introduced this item.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

4. JULY 7, 2013, STATE AND LOCAL ELECTIONS IN BAJA CALIFORNIA (INFORMATION)

On July 7, 2013, the State of Baja California held elections to elect the Governor, Mayors, and Local Representatives (Deputies). The new Governor of Baja California will be sworn in on November 1, 2013, for a six-year term ending in 2019. Mayors and Deputies are elected for a three-year term, and they will be sworn in on December 1, 2013, and October 1, 2013, respectively.

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 speakers and reports were provided.

Councilmember Rudy Ramirez, City of Chula Vista (South County), spoke on the 6th Annual International Friendship games held on Saturday, June 1, 2013, 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. Councilmember Ramirez thanked the Committee, Port of Entry/Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and Mexico for their help and support.

Supervisor John Renison (Imperial County) announced that the Board of Supervisors continue monthly meetings with stakeholder ad hoc committee, hosted by the Calexico Chamber of Commerce, and announced having great dialog with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and CBP on public-private issues. Former Intergovernmental Affairs Director Bob Ham was elected to chair this Committee. Supervisor Renison also reported on the canopies that are being installed at the Calexico West Port of Entry for inspection of southbound traffic and going into Mexicali, Baja, California, Mexico have already backed up traffic, and will aggravate the southbound traffic in Calexico. Additionally, he reiterated his concerns about not seeing any of the priorities listed for infrastructure being proposed on the Comprehensive Immigration Reform border bill and suggested to the Committee to work together to stay on the same page, and to continue to fight/support for more border infrastructure that will help them handle the air quality from idling cars at the Calexico POE.

Gary L. Gallegos, Executive Director (SANDAG), shared with the Committee and Supervisor Renison that SANDAG staff managed to worked actively with the Office of United States Senator for California Dianne Feinstein to include a section in the recently passed Senate Comprehensive Immigration Reform bill that would create a grant program to improve the transportation infrastructure at existing and new international border crossings. Staff also is working with the offices of the San Diego Congressional delegation (Congressman Juan Vargas and Congressman Scott Peters) to reflect and detail this section in the House Bill.

Supervisor Renison thanked Mr. Gallegos for providing this update and support on this important matter. Chair Minto reminded the Committee that Mr. Gallegos comments are included on Consent Item No. 3.

David Alvarez, Councilmember (City of San Diego), reported that the City of San Diego entered into a contract with a bike sharing program on border crossings at Virginia Avenue. He further commented on the north bound and south bound border crossings.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

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

The Consul General of México in San Diego, Hon. Remedios Gómez-Arnau, contributes to the Borders Committee dialogue by providing periodic reports on binational activities within the purview of the Committee. This report highlighted important aspects of the México – United States bilateral relationship.

Chair Minto introduced this item and speaker.

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

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 on the Borders Committee, briefed the members on issues and activities affecting tribal nations in the region and the state.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Chairman Mark Romero (SCTCA) presented the item and briefed the Committee on issues and activities affecting tribal nations in the region and the state. Chairman Romero responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

9. TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT REGULATION ORDINANCE (INFORMATION) – moved item

Tribal Employment Regulation Ordinance (TERO) makes employment opportunities available to qualified Native Americans from the tribes near projects that are federally funded. A representative of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs of the U.S. Department of Labor provided an overview of the program and its applications. TERO impacts many areas of tribal economy including contracting, employment opportunities, and taxation. Adam Geisler, Councilmember of the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, updated the Borders Committee on how the tribal nations in the San Diego region are supporting this effort.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Tomas Oliva (SCAG) and Councilmember Ruth Sterling, City of La Mesa (East County), commented on this item and inquired about the tribal unemployment rate and population.

U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP); Adam Geisler, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, Suzanne Jones, District Director, and Janney Parish presented the item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

8. SAN YSIDRO INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER STUDY DRAFT DESIGN CONCEPTS (DISCUSSION)

SANDAG, in partnership with the City of San Diego, Caltrans, Metropolitan Transit System, and the community, is conducting a study to develop a concept, as well as a funding and implementation strategy for an Intermodal Transportation Center in the vicinity of the San Ysidro POE. Two design concepts have been developed with input gathered from the community, border crossers, and the market study of potential commercial and institutional uses. Staff presented the draft concepts and provided an update on the study efforts to date.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker. He introduced and welcomed Honorable Maria Luisa Sanchez Mesa, Chair, City of Tijuana Council Commission of Border Affairs to the Committee.

Mario Lopez, Binational Affairs Director (City of San Diego), introduced himself and commented on the SYITC Study efforts in our region.

Jason Wells, San Ysidro Smart Border Coalition, provided a brief update on the stakeholders' interests of working with SANDAG on the SYITC project as a stakeholder group.

Councilmember Rudy Ramirez (South County) commented on this item and inquired about the SYITC project.

Gary L. Gallegos, Executive Director (SANDAG), responded to inquiries on market analysis for public-private partnership for commercial and institutional concepts that are scalable with project.

Councilmember Ed Gallo, City of Escondido (North County Inland), and Councilmember Al Ovrom (South County) commented on item and asked about SYITC facilities, duality of project and possible retail center options.

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

Mayor Teresa Barth, City of Encinitas (North County Coastal), spoke on proposed retail center options for the project and expressed her concerns on SYITC concept that will serve as a gateway to the world's busiest POE.

Councilmember David Alvarez (City of San Diego) concurred with Mayor Barth's concerns on SYITC concept that will help design, reflect and serve as a gateway to the world's busiest POE. He asked the Committee to provide the next steps alternatives being sought for a successful project.

Chair Minto and Jason Wells, San Ysidro Smart Border Coalition, provided additional comments and needs for designing a border crossing to suffice the world's busiest POE crossing.

Rachel Kennedy, Senior Regional Planner (SANDAG), presented the item and responded to questions.

Action: This item was presented for discussion purposes only.

10. THE STATE OF THE BORDER REPORT (INFORMATION)

This report provided a comprehensive look at the state of affairs in the management of the U.S.-Mexico border and the border region, focusing on four core areas: trade and competitiveness, security, sustainability, and quality of life.

Chair Minto introduced the item and speaker.

Rick Van Schoik, North American Research Partnership, presented the item.

Action: This item was presented for information purposes only.

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS (INFORMATION)

The next meeting of the Borders Committee is scheduled for Friday, September 27, 2013, at 12:30 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Minto adjourned the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

Attachment: Attendance Sheet

Meeting Start Time: 12:37 p.m.
 Meeting Adjourned Time: 2:17 p.m.

**CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE
 BORDERS COMMITTEE MEETING
 JULY 26, 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	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	No
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	Yes
COBRO	-----	Dr. Paul Ganster	Member	No
	-----	Vacant	Alternate	---
	-----	Vacant	Alternate	---
County of Riverside	WRCOG – Western Water Board	S.R. Al Lopez	Member	No
	City of Lake Elsinore	Brian Tisdale	Alternate	No
Republic of Mexico	Consul General of México	Remedios Gómez-Arnau	Member	No
	Deputy Consul General of Mexico	Francisco Javier Olavarria	Alternate	Yes
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	Yes
		Elsa Saxod	Alternate	No
SCAG		Rich Macias	Member	No
		Mathew Gleason	Alternate	No
		Tomás Oliva	Alternate	Yes
County of Orange	Coast Mesa Sanitary District	Jim Ferryman	Member	Yes
	County of Orange	Jim Dahl	Alternate	Yes