

**WESTSIDE CITIES**

- BEVERLY HILLS
- CULVER CITY
- LOS ANGELES
- SANTA MONICA
- WEST HOLLYWOOD
- COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Date: November 18, 2010

To: Westside Cities Council of Governments

From: Maria Rychlicki, Executive Director

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMS OF COG COMMITTEES

Action for Consideration

Review and approve the attached Work Programs developed and proposed by the COG Transportation, Sustainability and Homelessness and Social Services Committees.

Background

In November, 2009, the COG approved 2010-2012 Work Programs for each of its three working Committees. At the Committees' October meetings, these Work Programs were reviewed for relevance, completeness and accuracy. This resulted in minimal, but meaningful modification to each Work Program as detailed in the three attached memoranda. It is proposed that a similar formal annual review of the Committees' Work Programs be conducted.

Next Steps

Approved COG Work Programs will be posted on the COG's website. A "Work Program Review" item will be placed on each future committee agenda, to ensure that appropriate modifications may be initiated in a timely manner.

Attachments:

1. Transportation Committee Proposed Work Program for 2010-2012
2. Sustainability Committee Proposed Work Program for 2010-2012
3. Homelessness and Social Services Issues Committee Proposed Work Program for 2010-2012



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DATE: **October 11, 2010**

TO: **Westside Cities Council of Governments**

FROM: **Maria Rychlicki, Executive Director**

SUBJECT: **Transportation Committee Proposed Work Program for 2010-2012**

Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Governing Board review and approve the Transportation Committee proposed Work Program for 2010-2012.

Background

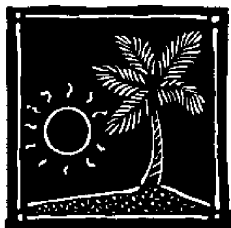
At its October 11, 2010 meeting, the Transportation Committee reviewed the work program developed in 2009 and proposed minor revisions resulting in the following proposed work program for 2010-2012.

- Continue to actively support, advocate and pursue funding for the COG's highest priority transportation projects:
 - Exposition Line to Santa Monica
 - Westside Subway Extension to Santa Monica
 - I-10/Robertson/National Area Circulation Improvement Project
- Continue to actively seek opportunities to support transit alternatives that will result in the maximum amount of rail miles on the Westside (added in response to Board direction at the September 23, 2010 COG meeting).
- Continue to support regional transit via such intra-regional connectivity components as the Green Line/LAX and the Regional Connector.
- Monitor and participate in METRO's efforts to revise the Measure R Expenditure Plan guidelines, with focus on METRO's proposed 3% Local Match recommendation.
- Continue to develop guidelines for COG joint transportation grant applications.
- Seek grants and continue to advocate for La Cienega Corridor Enhancement.

- Develop consensus between COG jurisdictions regarding a comprehensive review of opportunities to improve the La Cienega Corridor.
- If consensus is developed with an approved COG funding plan, engage consultant and/or local school design students to develop recommendations to improve physical appearance, traffic movement, transportation and pedestrian orientation along La Cienega Blvd.
- Continue to coordinate and collaborate on programs, including:
 - the West Hollywood/Beverly Hills joint taxi voucher program;
 - sub regional transit connections with Culver CityBus and Santa Monica Big Blue Bus transit systems;
 - sub-regional and regional METRO transit service;
 - bike facilities/infrastructure within the Westside Cities in coordination with the Sustainability Committee; and,
 - coordinate SB 375 implementation with the COG Planning group.

Next Steps and Additional Information

The staff group will continue to schedule review of the work program items monthly, and revise, expand or otherwise recommend modifications as appropriate to the full committee, and recommend updates to the full COG Board as appropriate. A recurring review item will be placed on the Committee agendas.



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DATE: October 13, 2010

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments

FROM: Maria Rychlicki, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Sustainability Committee Proposed Work Program for 2010-2012

Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Governing Board review and approve the Sustainability Committee proposed Work Program for 2010-2012.

Background

At its October 13, 2010 meeting, the Sustainability Committee reviewed the work program developed in 2009 and proposed minor revisions resulting in the following proposed work program for 2010-2012. A primary focus of the Committee is to identify sustainability issues and programs that the member jurisdictions can work on together, in a collaborative approach that maximizes shared existing knowledge and experience.

The revised work program proposed divides topics into:

- action items the COG can address on an ongoing basis,
- action items pending recommendations from the Sustainability Committee, and
- informational items that will be monitored and reported on to the full Committee, as appropriate.

Ongoing Action Items

- Energy Upgrade California, [formerly Los Angeles County Energy Program (LACEP)]
Continue to participate in activities advocating and supporting Energy Upgrade California including rebate and solar energy programs. Staff will monitor and provide support to the County as appropriate, and keep the committee and full Board informed of developments.
- Zero Waste
Continue to work together to seek collaborative opportunities to reduce solid waste and to the extent feasible, explore diversion and conversion technology, and report to the committee and full Board as appropriate.
- Sustainable Food

Continue to seek opportunities to share information on the principles of food sustainability. Information item scheduled for the November 18, 2010 Board meeting about the Santa Monica Cool Foods Program experience.

As appropriate develop joint promotional materials for distribution at Farmers Markets, libraries, schools, etc.

- Greenhouse Gas Reduction
Become more informed about (a) the Westside planning group's efforts with respect to AB375 and (b) the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative (LARC) efforts on the development of regional benchmarks. Schedule a presentation by LARC at the December 8 Committee meeting, and at the appropriate time, provide an update to the full Board. Research collaborative opportunities on greenhouse gas reduction with both the planning group and LARC, as appropriate.

Monitor and Provide Updates for Action by the Board, as Appropriate

The Committee will pursue opportunities for future collaboration on the following programs:

- Green Building Program
State standards have been adopted but cities may exceed the adopted standards. It is a goal of the Committee to seek collaborative opportunities that can result in improved, consistent, uniform standards across the Westside jurisdictions.

Review list of cities' standards compiled by Los Angeles County to seek opportunities for improving standards within member jurisdictions.

Updates to be provided as appropriate.

- Water Quality and Conservation
Monitor and participate in the Regional Integrated Water Management Plan (RIWMP). The Westside must work towards being more self-sufficient in this area. To this end, the Committee will:
 - Continue to monitor the Water Bond measure which is currently scheduled for consideration in 2012.
 - Seek grant funding for storm water run-off, conservation and other water programs.
 - Continue to support environmental education and public health programs relative to storm water run-off.
 - Explore incentive programs for reclaimed water use, including Smart Gardening Programs.

There may be mandates with which each jurisdiction must comply; however, collaborative opportunities will be a goal. Updates will be provided as appropriate.

- South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD)
On an ongoing basis, review and monitor air quality actions of the federal, state and regional entities to ensure compliance.

This is an item where there may be mandates with which each jurisdiction must comply; however, collaborative opportunities will be a goal. Updates will be provided as appropriate.

Sustainable Transportation

Seek opportunities as appropriate, in conjunction with the COG Transportation Committee, to address the Westside's bicycle and electric vehicle infrastructure needs. Schedule a presentation by Southern California Edison, at the December 8, 2010 Committee meeting, on coordinated electric vehicle infrastructure/possible impact on building codes and invite Transportation Committee members to attend. (Addition to the Work Program.)

Next Steps and Additional Information

The staff group will continue to schedule review of the work program items monthly, and revise, expand or otherwise recommend modifications as appropriate to the full committee, and recommend updates to the full COG Board as appropriate. A recurring review item can be placed on each Committee agenda.


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Date: October 21, 2010

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments

FROM: Maria Rychlicki, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Homelessness and Social Service Issues Committee Proposed Work Program for 2010-2012

Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Governing Board review and approve the Homelessness and Social Services Issues Committee proposed Work Program for 2010-2012.

Background

At its October meeting, the Homeless Issues Committee reviewed and approved the following as part of the proposed work program for 2010-2012, noting that the work program is appropriate, but a prioritized action plan needs to be developed. The work program also needs to be expanded to reflect the committee's expanded purview with respect to social service issues. The social services work program will be placed on the Committee's December agenda. A draft list has been developed and will be a starting point for discussion.

- Continue to advocate that the Westside Cities, and the region, garner more Federal and State funding and legislative support for creating permanent supportive housing with wrap-around services. This includes the review of formula allocations and funding criteria that do not account for the magnitude of the homeless population in the region.
- Advocate for additional funding to pursue more housing assistance vouchers for the Westside and County of Los Angeles including Shelter Plus Care, Section 8 and HUD-VASH vouchers.
- Identify and support "best practice" strategies to align supportive services to the development of housing for homeless individuals. These include:
 - Conducting regular, complete homeless counts within WSCOG cities;
 - Identifying and targeting resources to the most chronic and vulnerable homeless;
 - Sharing good neighbor strategies and outreach tools.
- Identify and target resources specific to serving homeless families, youth, seniors and veterans.

- Participate in planning, advocacy and support for programs which serve the WSCOG area, including:
 - Ensuring the future availability of Westside armories for the Winter Shelter Program and coordinating timely resolution of issues;
 - Creating better linkages to VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System for housing, supportive services and benefits opportunities including linkages with the West Los Angeles Veteran's Affairs campus.
 - Creating better linkages with Los Angeles County supportive services including health care, mental healthcare, substance abuse treatment and benefits.
- Work to understand the homeless population on a sub-regional basis; review and implement opportunities for greater coordination of services across the Westside cities, and set sub-regional goals and targets to measure progress.
 - Use data to understand who is homeless and to identify individuals who spend time and access services in multiple jurisdictions;
 - Work to understand the kind of service and housing infrastructure needed to end homelessness;
 - Use cost-benefit analysis as a measurement and advocacy tool.
 - Share and implement common best practices including, but not limited to public safety departments, outreach workers and healthcare organizations.
- Continue to monitor and coordinate responses to emerging needs and issues related to homelessness in the region.

Next Steps and Additional Information

The committee will continue to schedule review of the work program items , and revise, expand or otherwise recommend modifications as appropriate to the full committee, and recommend updates to the full COG Board as appropriate.