



County of Santa Barbara Meeting of the Legislative Program Committee

Minutes

Date: Monday, May 7, 2012

Time: 10:30AM – 12:00PM

Place: **Board of Supervisors Conference Room, Fourth Floor**
105 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara

Committee Members:	Salud Carbajal, First District Supervisor	PRESENT
	Doreen Farr, Third District Supervisor	PRESENT
	Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer	PRESENT
	Robert Geis, Auditor-Controller	PRESENT
	Dennis A. Marshall, County Counsel	PRESENT

Public Comment

Action Items:

1. **Approve minutes from the April 2, 2012 meeting.**

Motion made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Dennis Marshall, to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2012 meeting of the Legislative Program Committee. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

2. **Receive an update on Federal issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary.**

- Thomas Walters of Thomas Walters & Associates, Inc. provided an update to the Committee.
- Chandra Wallar directed Thomas Walters to keep the County apprised of the future of HR 7.

Motion made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Robert Geis, to receive an update on Federal issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

3. **Receive an update on State issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary.**

Cliff Berg and Monica Miller of Governmental Advocates, Inc. provided an update to the Committee.

- The May Revise will likely put forth additional cuts, as the State is currently \$2 billion below what was anticipated.
- AB 1998 (Achadjian) regarding surplus computer equipment made it out of the Assembly.
- AB 2443 (Williams) regarding Quagga mussels made it out of the Assembly. 85% of incoming funds from fees will go to local governments, and 15% will go back to the State Department of Fish & Game.

- The State Department of Housing and Community Development is being folded into the Housing Finance Agency as part of the Governor's restructuring and streamlining plan.
 - ⇒ Supervisor Farr directed Governmental Advocates, Inc. to keep the County up to date on this merge, as it is of real interest to the Board of Supervisors and SBCAG.
- Chandra Wallar asked whether any redevelopment bills are expected to make their way to the Governor within the next 30 days.
 - ⇒ Monica Miller stated that Senator Wolk has proposed legislation that provides an alternative to redevelopment agencies, but nothing is likely to happen until August 2012.

Public Comment:

- Geoff Bard addressed the Committee regarding Quagga mussels and the need for funds to be directed to biology and Quagga mussel mitigation.

Motion made by Supervisor Farr, seconded by Supervisor Carbajal, to receive an update on State issues of interest to the County and direct staff to take action as necessary. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

4. Discussion and potential action items and direct staff to take action as necessary:

- A. **AB 1994**, as introduced, Huber. Disability Access. An act to amend Government Code, relating to disability access.
- Terri Nisich stated that AB 1994 has been put on hold by the author.
 - Supervisor Carbajal asked about the purpose of "passive support" and "passive opposition" language used on the County of Santa Barbara Legislative Analysis Form.
 - ⇒ Cliff Berg of Governmental Advocates, Inc. stated that the terms "passive support" or "passive opposition" indicate that a letter of support or opposition will be prepared. The terms "active support" and "active opposition" would mean testifying at hearings regarding the County's position.
- B. **SB 1241**, as amended, Kehoe. Land use. An act to amend Government Code and to add section to the Public Resources Code, relating to Land Use: general plan, safety element fire hazard impacts.
- Terri Nisich stated that CSAC has dropped their position of opposition, but has not yet taken a position of support.
 - Jeff Hunt, P&D-Long Range Planning Division, addressed the Committee regarding SB 1241.
 - ⇒ The County of Santa Barbara Planning & Development department is not opposed to addressing the risk of fire in state responsibility areas and very high fire hazard severity zones by taking into account considerations including the most recent version of the Office of Planning & Research's "Fire Hazard Planning" document, nor is it opposed to making 3 specified findings before approving a tentative map for an area located in a state responsibility area or high fire hazard severity zone.
 - ⇒ The County of Santa Barbara Planning & Development department is opposed to the inclusion of this in the General Plan, due to the cost of constant amendments.
 - ⇒ Chandra Wallar directed staff to watch SB 1241 closely for any indication of any effects on local control.
 - ⇒ Supervisor Farr raised the possibility of surcharges for building in remote areas.

Motion made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Supervisor Farr, to take an “Oppose unless Amended” position and draft a letter of opposition. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

C. **AB 1801**, as amended, Campos. Fees for Solar. An act to add to the Government Code, relating to land use. Bill would prohibit the total fees charged in association with an application from exceeding the actual cost to the city, county, or city and county.

- Jeff Hunt, P&D-Long Range Planning Division, stated that AB 1801 may open the doors for strict interpretation of the actual costs of issuing the permit and counties should be allowed to set their own fee schedules.
- Chandra Wallar and Supervisor Carbajal asked Monica Miller to research the goal of AB 1801.
- Chandra Wallar asked whether AB 1801 is intended to force counties to take less than their full cost recovery, and stated that the County is interested in AB 1801’s local control and language duplication issues.
- Supervisor Farr stated that the specification of proposed dollar amounts puts the County on the defensive.

Motion made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Supervisor Farr, to direct staff to draft an opposition letter stating that AB 1801 is an unfunded mandate, and that duplication is not necessary. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Motion made by Supervisor Carbajal, seconded by Supervisor Farr, to adjourn the May 7, 2012 meeting of the Legislative Program Committee. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Next Meeting date: Monday, June 4, 2012

“Writings that are a public record under Government Code § 54957.5(a) and that relate to an agenda item for open session of a regular meeting of the County Legislative Program Committee and that are distributed to a majority of the members of the County Legislative Program Committee less than 72 hours prior to that meeting shall be available for public inspection at Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board at 105 E. Anapamu Street, 4th Floor in Santa Barbara, and also on the County’s website at <http://www.countyofsbq.org/ceo/legis.aspx?id=308>”