

# ALAMEDA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE MINUTES

Meeting of September 9, 2020

This telephonic/video meeting, held in compliance with Alameda County's shelter in place order, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President David Haubert using a Zoom software interface.

## 1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

The following mayors, or their elected alternates, were present during the proceedings:

City	Member Attendee
Alameda	Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft
Albany	Mayor Nick Pilch
Berkeley	Mayor Jesse Arreguin
Dublin	Mayor Dave Haubert
Emeryville	Mayor Christian Patz
Fremont	Mayor Lily Mei
Hayward	Mayor Barbara Halliday
Livermore	Mayor John Marchand
Newark	Mayor Al Nagy
Oakland	Mayor Libby Schaaf
Piedmont	Mayor Robert McBain
San Leandro	Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter
Union City	Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci

## 2. Approval of the July 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Mayor Haubert and seconded by Mayor Dutra Vernaci to approve the June 10, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

## 3. Agenda Amendments

No agenda amendments.

## 4. Public Comments and Other Announcements

No public comments

## 5. Member Reports on Regional Activities and Committees

Mayor Dutra-Vernaci updated members on recent activity of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) including converting to cashless tolling on bridges and its study on the impact of COVID-19 for infrastructure projects.

Mayor Arreguin informed members that the Association of Bay Area Government's (ABAG) *Plan Bay Area 2050 Blueprint* has been released and that comments are welcome. He will provide the Executive Director with information regarding the plan's status.

Mayor Marchand provided an update on funding for the Valley Link Rail Project indicating that new analysis shows increased ridership potential.

Mayor Halliday noted East Bay Economic Development Alliance will hold its East Bay Innovation Awards on October 15, 2020 as a virtual meeting.

## **6. Appointments to Regional Boards and Call for Applications**

No appointments were scheduled for this meeting.

## **7. League of California City Reports, Legislative Updates and Actions**

Samantha Caygill, Regional Public Affairs Manager, East Bay Division, League of California Cities (League) discussed the status of the California legislature indicating that the League urges cities to take action on priority bills that are currently on the Governor's desk. She also informed members of the League's Annual Conference and Expo that will occur virtually on October 7-9, 2020. She also provided information on the Support Local Recovery Campaign and directed members to the League's website for information.

## **8. Meeting Presentation**

William L. McDonald, Fire Chief, Alameda County Fire briefly outlined his background, discussed the SCU complex lightening fire, which was started by lightning strikes and has burned over 400K acres to date. He indicated that the dedication of the Alameda County fire service was exceptional and thanked all involved for their service. He stated that about 1,500 fire fighters have been involved in the effort. He indicated that the state is experiencing amazing fire activity involving over 2 million acres consumed to date. He also expressed his honor at being able to serve as Alameda County Fire Chief.

Mayors Russo Cutter and Dutra-Vernaci expressed an interest in a meeting with him and the five cities that are served by the County to discuss ongoing services.

## **9. Other Business Matter**

a) Discussion Regarding COVID-19.

Mayor Marchand requested information from members regarding the impact that eviction limitations are having on commercial property owners. He indicated that some property owners have had to declare bankruptcy due to lack of rent receipts.

d) Discussion regarding impacts of and approach to Halloween activity.

Mayor Ashcraft expressed her thoughts on potential issues with Halloween activity and after some discussion with members, she indicated she will contact the County Health department for guidance on the subject.

Other Comments

Mayor Schaff informed members of Mayors for Medicare, which is a coalition of mayors who support Medicare for all. She indicated that a current goal is

to gain the support of the United States Conference of Mayors to support the Senator Sanders Medicare for All Act of 2019. Additional information is available at [mayors4medicare.com](http://mayors4medicare.com).

Dutra-Vernaci requested an update regarding the ad hoc task force of mayors and Alameda County representatives concerning homelessness. Mayor Arreguin indicated that the group decided to meet quarterly and that staff members are still actively engaged with the project. He also indicated that he would follow up regarding the scheduling of a future meeting. Mayor Schaaf concurred that the staff working group remains active. She also indicated that the California Supreme Court let stand Proposition C approved in San Francisco in November 2018, which establishes a 0.5% gross receipts tax on corporate revenue.

Mayor Halliday stressed the importance of obtaining better mental health services throughout the region.

Mayor Marchand provided information on Livermore's tiny home project and Mayor Mei provided information on Fremont's Navigation Center.

#### **10. Request for Future Agenda Items**

Mayor Russo Cutter indicated that there is a growing concern with climate change and that it would be good to have a speaker on this subject. She and Mayor Ashcraft will discuss options.

Mayor Schaaf raised the potential of having Dr. Tony Iton with the City of Oakland's Racial Disparities Task Force present to the group concerning the message for COVID-19.

Members expressed an interest in scheduling a presentation from the Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS) currently active in Eugene, Oregon and with the Alameda County Community Assessment and Transportation Team (CATT) program.

Mayor Halliday indicated an interest in having a representative from the East Bay Community Energy speak at a future meeting regarding program status and the status of renewables

#### **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Bocian  
Executive Director