

ALAMEDA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE MINUTES

Meeting of October 14, 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 pro tem Mark Salinas
Livermore	Mayor John Marchand
Newark	Mayor Al Nagy
Oakland	Mayor Libby Schaaf
Piedmont	Mayor Robert McBain
Pleasanton	Mayor Jerry Thorne
San Leandro	Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter
Union City	Mayor Carol Dutra-Vernaci

2. Approval of the September 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Mayor Marchand seconded by Mayor Dutra-Vernaci to approve the September 9, 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

Mona Barra-Gibson from Phong La, Alameda County Assessor's Office, introduced herself and indicated that the Assessor's office is developing assessment material and cities will hear from the Office in the near future.

Mayor Pilch indicated that Climate Mayors filed a lawsuit regarding the Trump Administration's rollback of vehicle emission standards.

Stephen Baiter, Executive Director of the East Bay Economic Development Alliance provided information regarding the innovation awards scheduled for October 15, 2020.

5. Member Reports on Regional Activities and Committees

Mayor Arreguin provided an update on the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) indicating that Blueprint for 2050 was approved by ABAG and that it is currently looking at alternatives and more discussion anticipated.

Mayor Schaaf provided information on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Plan Bay Area 2050 Final Blueprint proposal that large employers have at least 60 percent of their employees telecommute on any given day.

Mayor Marchand thanked mayors for their support of the Alameda County Transportation Commission's action to reallocate \$400 million in Measure BB funding to the Valley Link rail project.

6. Appointments to Regional Boards and Call for Applications

a) Sitting as the Alameda County City Selection Committee:

It was moved by Mayor Haubert and seconded by Mayor Nagy that the Alameda County City Selection membership accept the Nominating Committee's recommendation to reappoint Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board for a term of two years effective December 1, 2020. The motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

b) Sitting as the Alameda County Mayors' Conference:

It was moved by Mayor Haubert and seconded by Mayor Nagy that the membership accept the Nominating Committee's recommendation to appoint Mayor Nick Pilch to the Alameda County Transportation Commission Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee representing District 5 for a term of two years effective November 1, 2020. The motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

It was moved by Mayor Haubert and seconded by Mayor Nagy that the membership accept the Nominating Committee's recommendation to appoint Oakland resident Chiamaka Ogwuegbu Alameda County Transportation Commission, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee representing District 4 for a term of two years effective November 1, 2020. The motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote.

President Haubert informed members of the current regional board vacancies and directed them to review Item 6 of the Executive Director's Report, which provides detailed vacancy information.

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

Samantha Caygill, Regional Public Affairs Manager, East Bay Division, League of California Cities (League) indicated that there are opportunities for membership on the League's committees, including the Policy Committee and that Ron Davis will present on police reform at the next Division meeting.

8. Meeting Presentation

Dr. Anthony Iton, Senior Vice President for Healthy Communities at the California Endowment, and member of the City of Oakland's COVID-19 Racial; Disparities Task Force (Task Force) made a PowerPoint presentation on COVID-19 messaging and his work with the Task Force focusing on the polling work that identifies how people are responding to various types of messaging and what their needs and perceptions are concerning mask wearing. He indicated that Healthy Communities has a YouTube channel that has been well visited and has been effective in reaching people.

He indicated that its work used a QualBoard polling process and that the polling concluded that the most common reasons people don't wear masks are discomfort and forgetfulness, and therefore, messaging focused on reminding respondents of the need to wear one and conveying basic factual information about the pandemic can be very powerful. Additionally, messaging that encourages conversations on precautions and wearing a mask even in trusted company, could be useful to help well-intentioned people wear masks more frequently. Fact-based informational messaging can also, over time, help combat misinformation that several anti-mask respondents have heard. However, messaging on mask-wearing should generally not include political or social justice messaging unless the audience is sure to be supportive of those messages, as most still see connections between social justice and public health as tenuous and divisive.

He also identified key findings including that the participants had all been deeply impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, that most participants reported taking precautions, but had recently started to be less vigilant, that four in five participants wear masks frequently in public, and that discomfort and forgetfulness were the most common reasons that people reported not wearing masks.

Dr. Iton answered member questions.

9. Other Business Matter

a) Potential change to the scheduled November 11, 2020 meeting date due to the Veterans Day holiday.

Members requested that the Executive Director conduct a poll to determine the most suitable alternative date for this meeting.

b) Discussion and potential action concerning Association of Bay Area Government's (ABAG), Regional Housing Needs Analysis (RHNA).

Mayor Arreguin provided background regarding the work of the ABAG Methodology Committee and the RHNA process to date, outlined the guiding principles used, the process for reaching consensus and the fact that option

8a was a compromise between all participants. He thinks the compromise reached a good balance.

Mayor Ashcraft indicated that the ABAG Regional Planning Committee also approved the methodology and that it indicated that it is the best option for the whole region.

Mayor Mei expressed concern that the methodology did not consider past development, Fremont's significant diverse population and that the city does not have a seat at the table.

Dave Vautin, ABAG Assistant Director, Major Plans said no methodology used race instead upward mobility and that it looked at racial divergent in communities.

Mayor Marchand indicated that the methodology does not address the jobs housing balance and that he supports an alternative methodology that will be presented later in the meeting.

Councilmember Mark Salinas indicated that there needs to be a more clearly defined definition of equity as used in the context of this issue.

Mark Roberts, City Manager, City of Livermore made PowerPoint presentation outlining an alternative proposal.

Mayor Pilch said he liked the presentation and understands the issue.

Mayor Mei indicated that the proposed methodology would require the city to redo many of its long-term plans.

Mayor Schaaf made a motion that no action be taken on adopting an alternative methodology and that cities contact AGAG directly with their perspectives. The motion seconded by Mayor Patz. President indicated the need for more discussion prior to taking action on the motion.

Robert McBain indicated that the ABAG methodology does not reflect reality and that it will lead to endless litigation.

Carol Dutra Vernaci indicated that there were many interests and reasons why housing is not being constructed and meeting the targets is difficult even if a city is focused on meeting them.

Mayor Nagy recognized that it will be difficult to come to consensus but that he looks favorable at the alternative.

Mayor Thorne indicated that he supports sending a letter to ABAG with an alternative methodology.

Mayor Marchand made a substitute motion supporting the alternative methodology as presented this evening and that a letter be sent to ABAG Executive Board indicating the Mayors' Conference support of the alternative methodology. The motion was seconded by Mayor Thorne. The motion was approved on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mayors Pilch, Mei, Marchand, Nagy, McBain, Thorne, Russo Cutter, Haubert

Noes: Mayor Patz

Abstain: Mayors Arreguin, Dutra-Vernaci, Ezzy Ashcraft and Councilmember Salinas (City of Hayward)

Absent: Schaaf (left meeting early)

c) Discussion regarding COVID-19 Issues and related matters.

Mayor Haubert indicated that the meeting's discussion was very informative and helpful for cities.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates

Mayor Russo Cutter indicated that it will be necessary to discuss the proposed home cooking ordinance being discussed by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

11. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Bocian
Executive Director