



Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority

DATE: February 1, 2024
TO: Governing Board
FROM: Joaquin T. Siques, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Appointment of AVCJPA Representative to the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Governing Board:

1. Find this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3), the Common Sense exemption that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
2. Appoint Joaquin T. Siques as the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Representative effective his date of appointment as Executive Director on October 5, 2023.
3. Accept nominations and appoint an alternate member to the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) effective February 1, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

On November 1, 2018, the Governing Board appointed the “Executive Director” by position (not name) to be the Representative to the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings. In addition, and at a later date, Talin Shahbazian, City of Pasadena, as the Alternate.

Although the previous action of the Governing Board would allow the new Executive Director to serve, AVCJPA staff would like to submit a letter to Metro indicating the name of the representative. Therefore, it is recommended that the Governing Board appoint Joaquin T. Siques, current AVCJPA Executive Director to the Metro Policy Advisory Committee.

The Metro Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) meets quarterly. The PAC was originally formed to help Metro formulate the Guidelines for the (at the time) new Measure M funds. Once that was complete, it was turned into a general advisory committee. The Committee is intended to be advisory only, so when a presentation is made, the Committee cannot approve or disapprove of a given policy. As stated in the PAC Guidelines, “There will not be votes on any issues—indeed feedback to the board should reflect the full range of perspectives, not just the “majority” view on any subject.” Individual members can only ask questions or comment. The Policy Advisory Committee is comprised of Transportation Consumers, Transportation Providers and Jurisdictions. The groups are equal in number (10 each). For each of the other COGs or JPAs, the Representative is the Executive Director.

The Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. The TAC provides countywide technical assistance by reviewing, evaluating, and making

recommendations for Metro staff's consideration on various transportation proposals, projects and programs affecting Los Angeles County. Transportation issues discussed include, but are not limited to, funding, operations, construction and maintenance of streets and freeways, bus and rail transit, bikeway and pedestrian improvements, sustainability, demand system management, air quality improvements, and goods movement. The TAC plays a key and vital role in making recommendations on project funding and deobligations.

The Metro TAC Alternate position is currently vacant, and AVCJPA staff is requesting the Governing Board accept nominations and appoint an alternate member to the Metro TAC.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed action of appointing members to the Metro TAC and/or Metro PAC is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3), the Common Sense exemption. This activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA only applies to programs or projects that have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact with appointing members to the Metro PAC and/or Metro TAC.