

**CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Summary
May 14, 2020**

At 5:33 P.M. the Legislative Committee meeting was called to order via Zoom remote conferencing by Chair Mahanpour.

Attendance sheet is attached.

Guests or Staff Attending:

Matt Robinson – Shaw / Yoder / Antwih / Schmelzer and Lange, Inc.
Sandy Wong, Matt Fabry, Susy Kalkin, Kim Springer, Sean Charpentier Van Ocampo - C/CAG Staff

1. Public comment on related items not on the agenda.

None.

2. Roll call for attendance.

Staff announced roll-call for Committee attendance.

3. Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2020.

Member Garbarino moved and member Rak seconded approval of the April 9, 2020 minutes. Motion passed, 11:0:0.

4. Update from Shaw/ Yoder/ Antwih (SYA).

Matt Robinson and Andrew Antwih, from Shaw/ Yoder/ Antwih / Schmelzer and Lange ,Inc. provided a legislative update from Sacramento via phone.

Updates from Sacramento:

Update on Sacramento activities included announcements about the State Assembly and Senate returning from spring recess on May 4 and May 11, respectively. Matt Robinson shared that the legislative calendar for the 2020 session has been pushed back by about two weeks due to shelter-in-place, but that committee hearings are proceeding, mostly pertaining to COVID-19 response and funding. The chairs of committees in both houses have provided fairly strict guidance in terms of which bills should be held in committee hearings and which should be postponed to next session. The Senate and Assembly are planning to take summer recess from July 2 to July 13, with final adjournment of the legislative session on August 31. The other constitutionally mandated deadline is the passage of a budget bill for 2020-21 by both houses by

June 15. The Governor has until July 1 to enact the budget after any additional modifications from his May Revision of the proposed budget from January.

Regarding the State budget, Governor Newsom released the May Revision of the draft budget from January on May 14, which included sweeping budget cuts across the board. Notably, the revised budget is a “workload budget,” meaning existing programs will continue to be funded, but no new programming allocations will be included in the proposed budget for consideration by the legislature. The Governor announced an anticipated budget shortfall of \$54 billion by the end of the calendar year due to COVID-19, and the State will look to budget cuts, spending down the State’s “rainy day funds” and other reserves, as well as requesting significant federal support to close the budget gap in the coming year. Because of the delayed deadline for filing income tax, there will likely be additional “trigger cuts” to the proposed budget after being approved in June and July. Policy and fiscal committees will be hearing budget and other bill proposals in the coming weeks, and C/CAG staff with support from SYA will provide a bulleted list of bill updates based on the truncated session timeline by the next Legislative Committee meeting in June. It was noted that transportation revenues are expected to be reduced, though State funding will continue with relatively minimal impact on overall expenditure plans for existing programs. Local sales tax and property tax impacts will likely be more significant for municipalities.

Policy Updates:

The Committee discussed the status of the Bay Area FASTER and SEAMLESS campaigns, and Robinson noted the FASTER funding initiative is off the table for the November 2020 ballot, while the SEAMLESS campaign has been scaled back to the formation of a policy task force and the development of integrated wayfinding and mapping among regional transit agencies. Member Papan mentioned she was selected to partake in the Blue Ribbon Task forces that is part of the SEAMLESS initiative, and also stated there will likely be future legislation to implement the measures included in the SEAMLESS campaign around better transparency, streamlined regional transit, equity, etc. There was additional discussion around current COVID-19 and housing related policies, including SB 939 (Weiner/Gonzalez) and SB 902 (Weiner), which may have important implications for local revenues and housing production. Robinson noted, their staff will have more information on these and other bills in the coming weeks. Robinson also noted the Governor has withdrawn his own proposal for a state resilience measure, which is an indicator of the extent to which the budget and current legislation are constrained. With that said, the legislature will likely push hard on some housing and transportation solutions this year to make moving money easier and to help fund projects. There will also be a focus in the coming weeks on how to advance and direct federal funds, including the proposed Heroes Act. Members briefly discussed the possibility of unrestricted federal dollars moving through programs like the Active Transportation Program, which has occurred in past.

No actions were taken by the Committee.

5. Discussion of “Lobby Day 2020 or 2021.”

Matt Robinson discussed the original plan to host Lobby Day in May or June of 2020. Robinson

shared the access to the Capitol is very restricted with legislators being allowed only one staffer to attend hearings and other meetings. Members of the Committee discussed the possibility of holding a virtual Lobby Day this year, given there are enough focused issues to address with the San Mateo delegation, potentially even holding several one-off meetings with three or four Committee Members. Members shared potential discussion topics, including the proposed SB 902 on housing production and possible interest from some municipalities on issues of approved housing projects now conflicting with the Governor's plans for instituting rapid transit. Robinson also suggested there could be opportunities to weigh in on bills as they move through appropriations committees and State funding for regional and local transportation projects. C/CAG staff will work with SYA staff and members of the Committee to develop a proposal for a potential Summer 2020 virtual Lobby Day(s) with an update at the June Legislative Committee meeting.

7. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:57 P.M.