



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

A Joint Powers Authority

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING
STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKING SESSION
AGENDA**

Monday, August 26, 2024 — 10:00 a.m.

Burbank Community Room 104
150 N 3rd St #242
Burbank, CA 91502

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Vice-Mayor Mary Mendoza, City of San Fernando

Vice-Chair: Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, 3rd District, City of Los Angeles

Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles

Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles

Mayor Nick Schultz, City of Burbank

Mayor Elen Asatryan, City of Glendale

Councilmember Marsha McLean, City of Santa Clarita

Councilmember Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Nithya Raman, 4th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Imelda Padilla, Council 6th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, 7th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember John Lee, 12th District, City of Los Angeles

STAFF

SFVCOG Fiscal Agent: Rachelle Anema, County of Los Angeles

SFVCOG Secretary: Los Angeles County Commission's Office

OPEN SESSION

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** — Vice- Mayor Mary Mendoza, Chair
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Board, any public comments on any of the Consent Calendar items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Board request specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar.

- 5. MINUTES ([PAGE 4](#))**
 - a. July 8, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Recommended Action: *Approve Minutes.*

REGULAR CALENDAR

At the discretion of the SFVCOG, all items appearing on this Agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the SFVCOG.

- 6. CHAIR REPORT**

Vice-Mayor Mary Mendoza, Chair of the Board
Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Board Chair.
- 7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Executive Director
- 8. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKING SESSION - JOHN BWARIE**

Beginning the process to create a three-year plan to realize the vision of the SFVCOG and the goals to achieve it.

9. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. NEXT MEETING

Special Board Meeting: October 21, 2024 10 AM in San Fernando

11. ADJOURNMENT

Notices:

Meetings of the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments are recorded. Minutes of each meeting are available at <http://sfvcog.org/> after the Board approves them. A person with a disability may contact the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments before the scheduled meeting to request receipt of an agenda in an alternative format or to request disability-related accommodations, in order to participate in the public meeting, requests will be met to the extent feasible. Email info@sfvcog.org for accommodation. The entire agenda package and any meeting related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda package, unless exempt from disclosure pursuant to California Law, are also available.



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
A Joint Powers Authority

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES DRAFT

Monday, July 8, 2024 — 10:00 a.m.

Glendale City Chambers
613 E. Broadway,
Glendale, CA 91206
2nd Floor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Vice-Mayor Mary Mendoza, City of San Fernando
Vice-Chair: Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, 3rd District, City of Los Angeles
Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, 3rd Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles
Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles
Mayor Nick Schultz, City of Burbank
Councilmember Ara Najarian, City of Glendale
Councilmember Marsha McLean, City of Santa Clarita
Councilmember Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, City of Los Angeles
Councilmember Nithya Raman, 4th District, City of Los Angeles
Councilmember Imelda Padilla, Council 6th District, City of Los Angeles
Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, 7th District, City of Los Angeles
Councilmember John Lee, 12th District, City of Los Angeles

STAFF

SFVCOG Fiscal Agent: Rachelle Anema, County of Los Angeles
SFVCOG Secretary: Los Angeles County Commission's Office John
Bwarie, Executive Director, San Fernando Valley COG Shirley Edwards,
Deputy County Counsel, County of Los Angeles

OPEN SESSION - [Meeting Link](#)

1. CALL TO ORDER — Vice- Mayor Mary Mendoza, Chair

Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza called the Meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted by Staff.

QUORUM ESTABLISHED (10 Members):

Present 10: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Justin Orenstein.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stephanie Molen, a representative from LA Metro, addressed the SFVCOG and provided an update on the Sepulveda Corridor Project. Following her presentation, the members of SFVCOG expressed their interest in having Ms. Molen return to a future meeting to provide further updates on the project.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Board, any public comments on any of the Consent Calendar items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Board request specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar.

5. MINUTES ([PAGE 5](#))

- a. April 8, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- b. June 3, 2024 Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes

Recommended Action: *Approve Minutes.*

Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza requested that the minutes for June 3, 2024 be amended to reflect Vice Mayor as her correct title.

On motion of Mayor Nick Schultz, seconded by Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian, there being no objection, the SFVCOG approved the April 8, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes and approved as amended the June 3, 2024 Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 9: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Abstention 1: Councilmember Ara Najarian

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

6. FINANCIAL REPORT ([PAGE 23](#))

Review FY 2023-24 Financials April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024

Recommended Action: *Receive and File Financial Report*

On motion of Mayor Nick Schultz, seconded by Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian, there being no objection, the SFVCOG approved the Financial report by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 10: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

REGULAR CALENDAR

At the discretion of the SFVCOG, all items appearing on this Agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the SFVCOG.

7. CHAIR REPORT

Vice-Mayor Mary Mendoza, Chair of the Board

Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Board Chair.

Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza announced that anticipates holding an SFVCOG Board Retreat in August 2024 to discuss several items on strategic plans for the next 3-5 years.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

*Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Executive Director
Homeless Service Grant-writing update.*

John Bwarie, Executive Director, announced the success of the Annual Mobility Workshop, which received a significant attendance. Mr. Bwarie extended a cordial invitation to all, underlining the importance of their participation, and provided assurances that further details would soon be communicated to the board members.

9. REPORT FROM THE AD HOC JPA REVIEW COMMITTEE (PAGE 24)

Requested Action: *Review and accept recommendations from the ad hoc JPA Review Committee, and take appropriate action as follows:*

- a. Maintain existing quorum requirements as laid out in the SFVCOG's bylaws.
 - i. Accompanied request from the ED to each of the member offices to appoint at least two alternates to ensure attendance.
- b. Amend the bylaws to move to a numerical voting structure: 7 votes for a simple majority and 9 votes for a supermajority.

John Bwarie, Executive Director, presented a brief report on the Ad-Hoc JPA Review Committee and introduced the aforementioned agenda items. Mr. Bwarie elaborated on the proposal, which entails the allocation of two alternates to each member to ensure the maintenance of a quorum. Furthermore, a recommendation was put forth to adopt a numerical voting system as an alternative to separate votes for individual entities such as cities and counties. This methodology would empower members to abstain while still meeting the quorum requirement and effectively conducting as vote.

On motion of Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman, seconded by Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla, there being no objection, the SFVCOF approved this item to strike section 8.d (at the first scheduled meeting of the Board, a Board representative shall be elected to the position of Chair by the Board, and a different Board representative shall be elected to the position of Vice Chair of the Board) from the By-Laws by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 10: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

After discussion, on motion of Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman, seconded by Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, the SFVCOG amended Section 8. c of the Ad-Hoc JPA Agreement to amend the bylaws to move from category-based voting to numerical voting by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 5 : Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian

Noes 4: Councilmember Marsha McLean
Mayor Nick Schultz
Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Ara Najarian

Abstain 1: Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF A MAJORITY VOTE

On motion of Mayor Nick Schultz, seconded by Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, there being no objection, the SFVCOG tabled the item and dissolved the Ad-Hoc by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 10: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

10. SFVCOG APPOINTEE REVIEW ([PAGE 38](#))

Recommended Action: *Review and affirm appointees.*

John Bwarie, Executive Director, presented a brief overview of the current external appointed members, including any existing vacancies. The board deliberated on the reaffirmation, replacement, or appointment of new members. After discussion, the SFVCOG board agreed to reaffirm all current external appointed members, with the exception of the Metro Streets & Freeways Subcommittee Member (Vacant) and the League of California Cities Representative.

On motion of Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman, Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian, there being no objection, the SFVCOG approved the reaffirming current external members with the exception of League of CA Cities Representative by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 10: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza

Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

11. OCTOBER 2024 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING (PAGE 40)

Recommended Action: *Determine Alternative Meeting Date due to holiday*

John Bwarie, Executive Director, announced that the originally scheduled meeting for October 14, 2024, coincided with the holiday of Indigenous Peoples Day. Mr. Bwarie proposed alternative dates of October 7 or October 21. Following the majority approval from the SFVCOG Board, October 21 was selected as the preferred meeting date.

On motion of Mayor Nick Schultz, seconded by Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, there being no objection, the SFVCOG approved the following meeting date to change to October 21, 2024 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 10: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

12. MEETING LOCATION POLICY ([PAGE 41](#))

Recommended Action: *Update Meeting Location Policy to rotate between the 5 member cities in order.*

John Bwarie, Executive Director, announced the recommendation of having meetings in a rotational order while also adding the city of Los Angeles in its rotation. Mr. Bwarie explained LA city would be placed as the 5th member city in the rotation.

On motion of Councilmember Marsha McLean, seconded by Councilmember Ara Najarian, there being no objection, the SFVCOG approved rotating committee meetings in sequence and adding LA city as a 5th location by the following roll call vote:

Ayes 10: Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza
Councilmember Marsha McLean
Natalie Vartenian for Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Justin Orenstein for Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Alexandra Leard for Councilmember Imelda Padilla
Mehmet Berker for Councilmember Nithya Raman
Mayor Nick Schultz
Councilmember Ara Najarian
Doug Mensman for Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Myrka Martinez for Councilmember John Lee

Excused 2: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
Vice Chair Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

13. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS 1:28:30

a. 2024-25 Legislative Action Plan

1). Extend an invitation to representatives from LA Metro for comprehensive discussions. 2). After addressing the balance query during the retreat, place it on the agenda as a future item. 3). Deliberate on the LA Metro G line proposal and bond proposals and bring a Move LA representative to deliberate on their 2026 ballot measure.

14. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

There were none.

15. NEXT MEETING

Board Meeting: August 26, 2024, location TBA

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza adjourned the July 8, 2024, San Fernando Valley Council of Governments Board of Directors Meeting at 11:41 a.m.

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