

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Diane DuBois
Gateway Cities COG Office
16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723
February 4, 2009**

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Diane DuBois at 4:35 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Diane DuBois – Lakewood, Anne Bayer – Downey, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Ron Bates – South Gate, Bill Pagett, – Paramount, Ray Harris – Supervisor Knabe's Office, Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, Mohammed Mostahkami – South Gate

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Gordon Stefenhagen – Norwalk, Frank Gurule – Cudahy, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers – Gateway Cities COG, Jack Joseph – Gateway Cities COG, Nancy Pfeffer – Gateway Cities COG, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, Alex Clifford – Gateway Cities Service Sector, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Service Sector, George Francis Bass, Gateway Cities Service Sector, Michael Sieckert – Gateway Cities Service Sector, David Hershenson, Metro, Sharad Mulchand - Metro, Shaharзад Amiri – Metro, Philbert Wong – Metro, Lupe Valdez – Union Pacific Railroad, Connie Turner – Southern California Edison, Fernando Ramirez – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas's Office, Robert T. Dickey – South Gate, Pat McLaughlin - MIG.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Stan Carroll.

A quorum was reached and the Minutes of the January 7, 2009, meeting were approved.

Director DuBois introduced the MTA Board Meeting Highlights that were included in the agenda packets. She said she intended to release a similar bulletin after each MTA Board meeting.

Philbert Wong, Metro, and Pat McLaughlin, MIG, gave a power point presentation regarding the Environmental Justice Analysis and Community Outreach Study that are follow-up activities to the Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan. They described the advisory structure for the environmental justice elements and the communities that were selected for case studies. In the

Gateway Cities subregion the City of South Gate was chosen as a case study of the effects of truck traffic on local arterials.

Richard Powers, Gateway Cities COG Executive Director, presented a report on the submittals of projects by COG member cities for possible funding out of the Federal Economic Stimulus bill. Mohammad Mostahkami, City of South Gate, reported on the meeting of the Streets and Highways TAC at MTA where it was discussed that MTA

was proposing that only \$100 million of the estimated \$240 million in Federal streets and highways funding that would go to MTA would flow down to the cities and the County. He said that this was totally inadequate for the needs of the cities. Bill Pagett, City of Paramount, said that MTA would be receiving over \$375 million in transit funds on top of what was being proposed to be kept by MTA for streets and highways projects.

After discussion among the Committee members, it was moved by Gene Daniels, seconded by Stan Carroll, to recommend to the COG Board of Directors to challenge the proposed MTA allocation of only \$100 million in Federal Economic Stimulus funds to cities and the County. The motion was approved unanimously.

Lupe Valdez, Union Pacific Railroad, presented a report on current Union Pacific Railroad activities. She said a February 11 public hearing is the first step in the environmental process on the ICTF Modernization Project. She said in May Union Pacific will be soliciting applications from non-profit agencies for funding in the range of \$5,000 to \$10,000. She reported that Union Pacific is working on various projects within the Gateway Cities region, including: a quiet zone project in Santa Fe Springs; a bike path and right-of-way cleanup in Whittier; a beautification proposal in Compton; dealing with the problem of homeless encampments in the right-of-way in Lakewood; and beautification and school safety projects in South Gate.

Alex Clifford, General Manager of the MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector, reported on a list of future bus service enhancements identified by the Gateway Cities Sector Governance Council. He gave an update on the parking situation at the Artesia Blvd. Blue Line station. He said he was working on an agreement with the church next door to share parking lot facilities.

Jerry Wood, GCCOG Engineer, expressed concern that the continuing fiscal crisis in Sacramento would hold up work on the I-5 project.

Jerry Wood reported that the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee had selected the high cargo growth forecast with no near dock expansion as the base line for the I-710 environmental study.

Jerry Wood reported that the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Technical Advisory Committee would be meeting in two weeks to look at the feasibility of projects to be funded under Measure R.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

Ray Harris, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe, reported that the MTA Board had appointed a subcommittee regarding the implementation of Measure R, and that the members are Directors Katz, Knabe, Najarian, O'Connor, and Fleming.

It was the consensus of the Transportation Committee to meet again on March 4.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm.