

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Diane DuBois
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount
March 3, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Diane DuBois at 4:40 p.m. Roll-call was taken by self-introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane DuBois – Lakewood, Gordon Stefenhagen – Norwalk, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Ray Harris – Supervisor Knabe's Office, Ken Farfsing – Signal Hill, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Mohammad Mostahkami – South Gate, Dana Lee – Long Beach Transit, Bill Pagett - Paramount

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Gil Hurtado – South Gate, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers – Gateway Cities COG, Karen Heit – Gateway Cities COG, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, David Hershenson, Wally Shidler – Gateway Sector Governance Council, We Koo – U&E, Gary Hamrick – Iteris, George Bass – Gateway Sector Governance Council, Steve Huff – Rbf Consulting, Bo Burick – RBF Consulting, Yvette Kirrin – I5 JPA

The minutes of February 3, 2010 were approved with corrections to attendees: Gil Hurtado, Bill Pagett and Ernest Morales were in attendance but not reflected in the minutes.

MTA Director Dubois gave an overview of the February Board meeting. She began with reviewing the FY2011 budget and the \$181 million estimated shortfall. She talked about the Short and Long Term strategies to balance the budget. She discussed the potential use of reserves to fill in gaps and the implementation of longer term strategies. She also discussed the impact of the revenue loss on Measure R and Prop. A&C receipts and the impact this will have on Measure R project implementation.

She reviewed the new all underground alternative for the Regional Connector and indicated it would boost costs, however it was desired by the little Tokyo community and therefore would be studied. She discussed the Congestion Mitigation Fee and the upcoming Nexus Study. She also reviewed the Gateway Cities history with the CMF and the concerns that are particular to Gateway. She discussed the Villaraigosa/Ridley-Thomas Motion to audit MTA Legal expenses.

Transportation Deputy Karen Heit mentioned the O'Connor Motion to reexamine the restroom policy at bus and rail facilities, this came up as a discussion item during the All Sector Quarterly meeting held in February.

Heit went over the MTA request to have the subregion's submit additional projects for the strategic element of the LRTP. She read off the list of projects in the report and indicated that the city of South Gate had submitted a group of intersections that when combined represented a regional project. Bill Pagett suggested recognizing major arterials that transverse the region be nominated as long as they were regional, keeping an eye to mobility, and goods movement. Jerry Wood offered to forward a list of significant arterial corridors that were identified in the SR-91/I-605/I-405 for inclusion into the list of projects for the LRTP. A Motion was approved to have the COG Board approve a concept submission for the March 25th deadline.

Heit reviewed the State sales tax "swap" proposal and discussed the various aspects and how they differed from the current method of funding transit. She went on to apprise the committee of the latest news as well as the defined risks to having the gasoline sales tax removed and the excise sales tax geld up in court resulting in no state funding for transit. The draft letter attached to the report was discussed and a Motion was approved to forward the letter amended to include s statement about the gasoline sales tax issue being negotiated without public knowledge lacking transparency,

David Hershenson – gave Sector Report about recentralization. The sectors are no more but the Sector Councils were being strengthen. Hershenson discussed the Blue Ribbon Committee and the charge to save cost and rationalize service. GCCOG is represented by Wally Shidler and Jim Parker. Other issues include service coordination, fare coordination. The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at MTA Headquarters. Recentralization will cut down on the issues with Sectors and bus service. David Hershenson will still be the point of contact. Blue Ribbon agendas to be sent out through the COG.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 JPA Director, is arranging a briefing for the new Caltrans District 7 Director Mike Myles to introduce him to the I-5 projects. I-5 construction mitigation MOU signed and design is mobilized. I-5 EIR (605-710) still moving forward still needed more funding.

Jerry Wood, COG Engineer, discussed the i-710 project and the need to accommodate a change n Commerce and South Gate designs. The project schedule may slip. MTA has requested early action problems for the I-710 and develop a list by the end of the year, timely request. Commerce changes will require additional money for the I-5/I-710 project. The 3P consultant is starting to gear up and make recommendations for the project. SCAG is doing a freight movement corridor (FMC) plan to take the FMC beyond the I-5. Wood discussed how the MTA through Ernest Morales and his staff are moving the ITS and AQAP projects moving forward. Wood discussed continuing the FMC beyond the 710 through the use of SCE and DWP utility easements and transmission corridors to move freight. SCE has been at the table and DWP is now engaged.

Wood went on to discuss the SR-91/I-605/I-405 and how the MTA would be sending the RFP out to bid probably next month. The SR-91/I-605/I-405 will help define the significant arterials corridor and submit them into consideration for the strategic element of the LRTP.

Karen Heit reported on the OLDA and potential for Burbank Airport and the City of Burbank to join the JPA as well as interest on behalf of the City of Santa Ana, who has been observing the OLDA proceedings. She also discussed the SCAG cross-county West Santa Ana Branch/Pacific Electric ROW. Alternatives Analysis that would be beginning soon.

GCCOG Executive Director reported on the progress made with the CHSRA funding for project review. GCCOG has signed all agreements for design review and the COG has selected consultants.

There was additional discussion about the delay of ARRA funds and second tier funds being delayed. There was also discussion of the potential for swapping ARRA II funds with bond money.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.