

**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
April 7, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Diane DuBois at 4:30 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, Gil Hurtado – South Gate.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Karen Heit – Gateway Cities COG, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, Richard Powers – Gateway Cities COG, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Metro, Gerardo Alvarez – MTA, Philip Law – SCAG, Ernest Morales – MTA, Deborah Chankin – Bellflower, Nancy Pfeffer – Gateway Cities COG, Gary Hamrick – Iteris, Naresh Amatyia – SCAG, Chester Britt – Arellano Associates, David Hershenson, Michael Sieckert – MTA, Michael Kodama – OLDA, Yvette Kirrin – I5 JPA.

The minutes of February 3, 2010 were approved with the correction of the adding of Gil Hurtado to Committee Members present.

Director DuBois gave an overview of the development of the FY11-16 Los Angeles County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment and the criteria that was developed to sequence the projects for funding. She also discussed the Motion to share the ARRA funding with the cities. She had requested an analysis of what the sharing of these funds would mean to TIP implementation if they were shared with the cities. The staff’s analysis was consistent with the original recommendation not to shared The Motion to share was approved. There was general discussion on how the dynamics of the situation went.

Phillip Law, SCAG project Manager, gave an overview of the Pacific Electric Right of Way/West Santa Ana Branch Alternatives Analysis (AA). This study is an outcome of the OC/LA Intercounty Study. He discussed how the AA would be looking at a way to utilize a valuable publicly held asset. He went over the history of the ROW, current use and old usage. He spoke to following the FTA guidelines for eligibility for federal funding. The AA is to provide local jurisdictions with the information to make a decision on a transportation initiative. The goal of the process is to screen down to a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). He discussed the process for implementing the study; meetings structure and participants. Lastly, he reviewed the project schedule. Bill Pagett discussed a

grant that removed tracks from the grade separation [29 crossings] and the need to stay separate for 20 years (five years into that period). Consideration will be given for non-motorized uses in the AA.

Gerry Alvarez, MTA project manager, gave an overview of the Metro Gold Line Eastern Extension Phase II, noting that he gave a similar report a few months earlier. The results of the Alternative Analysis recommended the SR-60 and the Whittier alignments move forward through the environmental process. He reviewed the benefits and shortcomings of both alignments. He discussed the toxic soils and utility issues with the SR-60 alignment. He discussed the schedule for moving the process forward. The committee moved to recommend a Resolution supporting the selection of the Whittier alignment.

Director DuBois discussed the 30/10 Initiative and what the COG was seeking in order to enable Gateway Cities to support the 30/10 Initiative. At present, the Initiative does not include highways and may impact future financing of highway projects. There was a Motion approved to support the COG submitting the draft letter to Mayor Villaraigosa requesting the addition of highway projects to the acceleration plan.

David Hershenson, MTA Government Relations discussed the work of the Blue Ribbon committee in discussing the in resolving some of the issues with the elimination of the Sectors.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 JPA Executive Director, discussed the I-5 progress and the introduction of the project to the new Caltrans District 7 Director Michael Myles. There are properties under condemnation for the Carmenita Project and design development on the I-605 – OC segment. She mentioned that both Congressmembers Roybal – Allard and Napolitano requesting earmark funding for the environmental documentation from the I-605 –I-710.

Jerry Wood, COG Transportation Engineer, discussed the I-710 Corridor project and that there may be a schedule impact because of actions taken by the City of Commerce. There is a need to get information from the utility study to move the project forward, the designs are nearing completion. He went on to discuss the SR-91/I-605/I-405 project and the identification of projects that will become the foundation for the Gateway Cities Strategic Transportation Plan.

Wood discussed the High Speed Rail project (HSR) and the fact that they are now working with the Gateway Cities Consulting team involving the project going through the Gateway Cities plus Buena Park. Through the efforts of Fred Latham and Richard Powers, there is a collaborative effort underway to review the cities' concerns about design and impacts of the CHSRA project going through southern POC and Gateway Cities. The cities are engaged and there is information being provided.

Michael Kodama, OLDA Executive Director, gave an overview of the OLDA project status. He discussed the City of Palmdale leaving OLDA to concentrate on HRS project and the Burbank Airport coming in to have OLDA examine an airport connection.

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 pm.