

**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
June 2, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Diane DuBois at 4:34 p.m. Roll-call was taken by self-introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane DuBois – Lakewood, Gordon Stefenhagen – Norwalk, Ken Farfsing – Signal Hill, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Dana Lee – Long Beach Transit, Bill Pagett – Paramount, Gil Hurtado – South Gate, Stan Carroll – La Habra.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach, Ray Harris – Office of Supervisor Knabe; Mohammad Mostahkami – South Gate.

OTHERS PRESENT: Karen Heit – Gateway Cities COG, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, Jack Joseph – Gateway Cities COG, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Metro, Gary Hamrick – Iteris, David Hershenson, , Yvette Kirrin – I5 JPA, Sergio Carrillo – Fiesta Taxi, Tony Moreno – La Mirada, Bo Burick - RBF .

The minutes of May 5, 2010 were approved.

Director DuBois discussed the MTA Board highlights. The big item on the agenda was the SR-710 Tunnel project connecting the terminus of the SR-710 in El Sereno to the I-210 in La Canada-Flintridge. She discussed the Board decision to pursue the development of project environmental documents. She stated that the Board chose to pursue environmental document to identify some of the issues with each of the five project options. There was discussion about which cities were supportive or opposed to the tunnel and the elements of the technical aspects of the tunnel.

She discussed the disruption by the Bus Riders Union for approximately two and half hour, and the ensuing difficulty to conducting a public meeting.

She also discussed the MTA support of S 3189 (Brown) to allow for the utilization of Section 5307 and other federal capital dollars for operations in addition to capital expenses.

David Hershenson, MTA Communications, gave an update of the Gateway Service Sector. He reported on the June service changes that will not change much service in the Gateway area. There will be hearings for the upcoming December changes that may have more impact. He announced a meet and confer meeting scheduled for June 21st at 9:00 am – this is a meeting with all

service sectors and the MTA CEO. He then discussed the Blue Ribbon Committee Countywide effort that is looking at improving countywide bus service. Areas of inquiry include: service reliability, customer communications, better connectivity (system wide all modes) Improved coordination, frequency of service to match demand. The Committee will make recommendations to the full- Board in July. One of the items was a suggestion to have the Governance Councils represent rail riders. There was a discussion of the Villaraigosa/Antonovich Motion about examining different rail and bus service. There was discussion on the TAP program which is not universally accepted. The fare boxes are in place but the TAP program and capabilities are not accepted. There was a discussion about the efficacy of TAP and the reconciliation with its shortcomings. There is an issue with the EZ pass which is currently a flash pass and the lack of a tried and true mechanism for creating a TAP option for an EZ day pass.

Jack Joseph addressed the railroad ROW graffiti issue and trash. There is a right-of-entry that cities can obtain to remove trash for the ROW. The permission can be generated from the railroads. The creation of a subcommittee came up with the issues of graffiti and drainage. Collect specific examples of issues and present them to COG Board of Directors. Mohammed Mostakhami, Bill Pagett, a volunteer from Long Beach and Ray Harris (Julie Moore) from the Supervisor's Office. Contact representatives from SGV and SB, will also be notified.

Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director – I-5 JPA, gave the I-5 overview and discussed the preparations for the Carmenita bid package which is still on track for release in late 2011. The I-5 (605-710) is still moving forward and there is significant progress on the EIR for the I-5 (605-710).

Jerry Wood, COG Engineer, discussed anticipated changes on the I-710 project due to desired design changes in Commerce and South Gate. These changes will impact the schedule. The I-5 design work that is running behind and is impacting the I-710 schedule, He cited the EIR/EIS air quality work and remarked that it is very comprehensive. He discussed the Health Risk Assessment and how it is almost ready for distribution. He talked about the intersection and arterial work for the I-710. He discussed the early action projects and how they can be constructed before the main line freeway.

The AQAP contract has been awarded and the kick-off will be next week.

Wood discussed the removal of homes that are associated with the Commerce interchange and how Caltrans explained the process for residential property takes.

There was a question on whether the sound walls anticipated would be impacted by final design.

Wood went on to discuss the SR-91/I-605/I-405 and the feasibility study that

would be introduced from MTA. At the request of Caltrans the RFP includes the development of PSRs.

Wood talked about the CHSRA project and the reexamination (MTA/OCTA) of shared rail ROW. The HSR tracks may require elevation if they share ROW. There will be a CHSRA meeting in Los Angeles in July. The schedule is still on for EIR/EIS to be released in January of 2011. The Gateway Cities and Buena Park have signed a letter that requests information on the ROW impacts. The cities have consolidated their concerns and are getting ready to give them to CHSRA. He talked about the LA – San Diego and the LA – Anaheim lines, the LA San Diego follows along the I-605 and was created recently. Union Station is a critical piece of both projects and there have been many design concepts developed.

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy gave the OLDA report and presented an overview of the Pacific Electric ROW/West Santa Ana Branch Alternatives Analysis and the process that is required for the eventual acceptance of federal funds and the process that is required. She talked about the difference between the Orangeline project and the Alternatives Analysis process. She talked about the upcoming community meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm.