

GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Chair – Bonnie Lowenthal, Director, MTA

March 1, 2006, 4:30 PM
Gateway Cities Cog Offices
16401 Paramount Blvd.
Paramount, CA

Item No.	Description	Recommended Action
I.	Call to Order – Self Introductions	
II.	Pledge of Allegiance	
III.	Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2006	Receive & File
IV.	Reports:	
1.	California Legislative Bond Initiatives - Update	Receive & File
2.	Gateway Sector Report By Alex Clifford, Gateway Service Sector General Manager	Receive & File
3.	Municipal Operators Service Implementation Program – Update	Receive & File
4.	MTA Bicycle Master Plan and Strategic Document	Receive & File
5.	Update – I-5 JPA	Receive & File
6.	Update – I-710 Major Corridor Study	Receive & File
7.	Update – SR 91/I-605	Receive & File
8.	New Business/Date of Next Meeting	
9.	Adjournment	

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE COG OFFICE AT (562) 663-6850. NOTIFICATION 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING WILL ENABLE THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENT TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING.

Item III

Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of February 1, 2006

**Transportation Committee Minutes of
February 1, 2006**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Bonnie Lowenthal
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount
February 1, 2006**

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Lowenthal, Gene Daniels, Bill Pagett, James Parker, Stan Carroll, Marina Sueiro, Elba Guerrero, Gary Milliman, Kerry Cartwright, Mohammed Mostahkami.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Don Knabe, Greg Nordback, Ken Farfsing.

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers, Gateway Cities COG Executive Director; Jack Joseph, Gateway Cities COG; Deborah Chankin, Gateway Cities COG; Karen Heit, Gateway Cities COG; David Hershenson, MTA; Michael Sieckert, MTA Gateway Cities Sector; Brynn Kernaghan, Long Beach Transit, Sharad Mulchand, MTA, Alex Clifford, MTA, Wally Shidler, MTA, Jerry Wood, Gateway Cities COG, Abdoullah Ansari, Long Beach Public Works, Laura Cornejo, Montebello Bus Lines.

A quorum was reached and the Minutes of the December 7, 2005 meeting were approved.

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy to Director Lowenthal gave an overview of the three infrastructure bond initiatives going through the adoption process. The situation with these issues is volatile and changing weekly. Some of the more important issues are: the north/south split in funding that traditionally has favored northern California, a high local match requirement; project selection by the California Transportation Commission as opposed to the local programming entities (MTA, SCAG); and the absence of defined formulas to be used to distribute goods movement funding. There was discussion of the initiatives and the recommendations listed in the staff report. Kerry Cartwright suggested that previously awarded federal and local funds be counted as local match.

Suggested additions to the COG's recommendation included:

- Referencing the Statewide Goods Movement Action Plan for project identification.
- Allow for inclusion of previously awarded federal and local funds as match for project included in the bond issues.

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- Add the words restore to recommendation on Prop. 42 funds.
- Add "Include funding for buses and bus facilities as they are an integral part of mass transit, congestion relief and improved air quality".
- Include a transit security component.

The Transportation Committee moved to forward the recommendations to the Board.

Alex Clifford, Gateway Sector General Manager reported on Line 577x an express line from El Monte to Cal State Long Beach. He said the Line is well received. CSULB is doing a payroll stuffer to employees to encourage ridership. He also discussed changes to Line 258, the Garfield gap, that have been initiated to access Paramount City Hall. The Gateway Sector Rapid Bus Line 760 implementation has been delayed until December as some of the Cities require substantial signal work.

Karen Heit gave a quick update on the Local Return Guideline revision process. The Streets and Freeways Committee as well as the Technical Advisory Committee voted to revise Prop. C Local Return Guidelines to allow for the installation of signals that benefit transit. The Guideline Revision should be on the March MTA Board agenda.

Richard Powers, Gateway COG Executive Director, gave the I-5 JPA report. The City of Commerce finished it's review of the I-5/710 Mini-study, Caltrans has approved the freeway geometrics and Carmenita right of way acquisition is due to begin.

Mr. Powers continued to provide an update on the I-710 Major Corridor effort. The funding plan is nearly complete, the near-term air quality strategy is partially drafted, the City of Commerce has finished review of the Mini-study, East LA is still reviewing the report, and the Governance structure is completed.

Mr. Powers last report was on the status of the SR-91/I-605 Needs Assessment; the next step will be looking for funding. Mayor Stefenhagen of Norwalk is leading the effort to obtain the \$2-3 million required for the next project phase.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

IV. Reports
**1. California Legislative
Bond Initiatives**

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RESOLUTION 001-2006

Whereas a number of infrastructure bond proposals have been introduced in the State Legislature, and

Whereas, these proposals would authorize the issuance of General Obligation bonds for a variety of infrastructure improvements, and

Whereas, the State of California has used transportation funds to solve state budget deficits by suspending Proposition 42, and

Whereas, the use of General Obligation bonds could provide important new funds to transportation projects if existing transportation funds are protected, and

Whereas, Los Angeles County is home to the largest port complex in the United States, and

Whereas, the Los Angeles/Long Beach port complex is a key component of our national, state and local economies and provides significant economic benefits, and

Whereas this economic engine fuels the national state and local economies, it also impacts the County's air quality and mobility, and

Whereas Southern California is home to some of the nation's most heavily congested corridors, and

Whereas significant opportunities exist to develop mass transit projects in key corridors that will provide significant mobility improvements for residents of Southern California, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MOBILITY 21
COALITION**

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Supports a comprehensive infrastructure bond initiative that proportionately funds transportation projects in Southern California.

Supports the use of General Obligation bonds as a means of providing new funds to transportation

Supports the protection of existing transportation funds by removing the suspension clause from Proposition 42.

Urges the Governor and State Legislature to ensure that Southern California receive funds proportionate to its needs.

Urges the Governor and State Legislature to provide funding for transportation projects that facilitate and maintain the movement of goods, through Los Angeles County and throughout the Southern California region.

Urges the Governor and State Legislature to ensure that the amount of funds provided for goods movement projects is equivalent to the amount of goods moved through the County, and the amount of related truck and rail traffic.

Urges the Governor and Legislature to ensure that the bond include funding for projects that improve the environment, air quality, and safety specifically related to the impacts of the movement of goods through Los Angeles County.

Urges the Governor and Legislature to ensure that the infrastructure bond provide sufficient funding for congestion relief along Southern California's highway system and access to regional airports.

Urges the Governor and State Legislature to ensure that the infrastructure bond provide sufficient funding for new inner and inter-city rail projects.

Urges the Governor and State Legislature to ensure that existing project selection and funding processes be maintained and incorporated into the project selection and funding of infrastructure bond projects and programs.

Urges the Governor and State Legislature to ensure that innovative delivery tools such as design build and public private partnerships are authorized in this session.

IV. Reports
**4. MTA Bicycle Master Plan
and Strategic Document**

Transportation Committee Agenda

March 1, 2006

TO: Transportation Committee

FROM: Bonnie Lowenthal

BY: Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy

SUBJECT: MTA adoption of 1) Metro Bicycle Transportation Strategic Plan;
And 2) Bicycle Transportation Account Compliance Document.

Background

The MTA has spent the past three years preparing a new countywide bicycle transportation plan incorporating the 11 requirements of the State Bicycle Trust Account (BTA). The resultant product is two plans; the Bicycle Strategic Plan, a regional document designed to be used by local agencies in planning bicycle facilities around transit and the BTA Document that is a compendium of existing and proposed bicycle facilities in the County, bicycle trip estimates past and future expenditures for facilities.

Issue

By adopting the BTA Document as its own, any city can become eligible for State Bicycle Trust Account grant program. Local agencies will need to supplement the Plan with project and priority lists and an adopting resolution.

The full plans can be found online at the Metro.net website under Projects and Programs.