

GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Chair – Bonnie Lowenthal, Director, MTA

June 7, 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 May 3, 2006	Approval
IV.	Reports:	
1.	Legislation SB 1266 – Highway Safety Traffic Safety Air Quality & Port Security Bond Act of 2006	Receive & File
2.	Gateway Cities Comments – Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan – Task 5B	Receive & File
3.	MTA Soundwall Policy and Funding	Discussion
4.	Gateway Sector Report “Metro Connections” Alex Clifford, Gateway Service Sector General Manager	Discussion
5.	Update – I-5 JPA	Receive & File
6.	Update – I-710 Major Corridor Study	Receive & File
7.	Update – SR 91/I-605 Needs Assessment	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 Meeting of
May 3, 2006**

**Transportation Committee Minutes of
May 3, 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
May 3, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER: Councilmember Gene Daniels called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m. Roll-call was taken by self-introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Daniels – Paramount, Ray Harris – Supervisor Don Knabe's Office, Marina Suerio – Santa Fe Springs, Bonnie Lowenthal – Long Beach, James Parker – Norwalk Transit, Mohammed Mastakami, Ken Farsing – Signal Hill, Bill Pagget – Paramount, Gary Milliman – South Gate, Kerry Cartwright – Port of Long Beach. Stan Carroll - La Habra Heights

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Nordbak, Larry Nelson, Elba Guerrero

OTHERS PRESENT: Alex Clifford, David Hershenson – Metro, Wally Shidler – Gateway Sector Council, Richard Powers, Jack Joseph, Deborah Chankin, Karen Heit – Gateway COG. Sumi Gant – Long Beach.

A quorum was present and the Minutes of the April 5, 2006 meeting were approved.

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy to MTA Director Lowenthal gave a presentation on the status of AB2290 – a bill allowing for the formation of public private tollway projects. The bill was no longer active by the date of the meeting, however, it had a provision to allow for excessive length vehicles on exclusive truckways.

Director Lowenthal reported on SB 1507 – Margett, which called for the restructuring of the MTA Board giving a fifth seat to the South Bay COG. She explained that the MTA Board position was to oppose the bill as it did not originate from Los Angeles County. The MTA as a policy will oppose any bill not originating from the cities. The Transportation Committee recommended opposing the bill.

Karen Heit gave an update on the Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan; highlighting some of the deficiencies with the first work product, Task 3, Environment and Constraints. Kerry Cartwright addressed the lack of participation by the Port as an issue for the deficiencies in the plan effort to date. There was a general discussion on remedies for the process including broadening the steering committee and involving the SCAG Goods Movement Task Force and MTA Board of Directors.

Gateway Sector General Manager, Alex Clifford, announced a Governance Council Meeting on Metro Connections (a regional bus restructuring effort).to be held May 12th

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in Downey. The plan should identify travel patterns, make better regional connections and achieve countywide efficiencies. David Hershenson, gave a brief update on the Infrastructure Bond Initiative and the importance to the MTA for supporting transit and projects that might otherwise be delayed including rehabilitation of the Metro Blue Line.

Jerry Wood, I-5 JPA Executive Director, updated the progress made on I-5 project. Caltrans has made offers on the homes to be acquired. Construction is scheduled for 2008. The I-5 North in Orange County Project will break ground next month for construction.

Richard Powers, COG Executive Director, gave an update on the I-710 Major Corridor Study (MCS). Final meetings were conducted for the Tier 2 Committee and the Oversight Policy Committee. The OPC evolved into the Project Committee and expanded its membership to include the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (non-voting) and the I-5 JPA and the Port of Los Angeles. Co-chairs Nancy Ramos and Frank Colonna were elected and there was a presentation of alternative freight transfer technologies. The I-710 Executive Committee met today also to accept the results of the mini-study and Near-term Air Quality Compendium.

Mr. Powers updated the status of the SR-91/I-605 Needs Assessment. The project still needs funding, and the COG is active in this manner. The California Trucking Association and 25 inter-modal carriers are collaborating to provide data to ITS projects.

New business – report back to the committee on soundwall funding.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

IV. Reports

1. Legislation

SB 1266 - Highway Safety Traffic Safety

Air Quality & Port Security Bond Act of 2006

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TO: Transportation Committee

FROM: Bonnie Lowenthal, Transportation Committee Chair

BY: Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy

SUBJECT: SB 1266 – Highway Safety Traffic Safety
Air Quality & Port Security Bond Act of 2006

Background

On May 23rd, the Governor signed the State Infrastructure Bond Initiative, making the Initiative eligible for the November 6th ballot. SB 1266 proposes \$19.9 billion for transportation improvement projects.

Infrastructure Bond Summary

\$19.925 billion for:

- High-priority transportation corridor improvements
- State Route 99 corridor enhancements
- Trade infrastructure & port security projects
- School bus retrofit and replacement purposes
- State transportation improvement program (STIP) augmentation
- Transit and passenger rail improvements
- State and Local Partnership projects
- Local bridge seismic retrofit
- Highway-railroad grade separation and crossing improvements
- State highway safety and rehab projects
- Local street and road improvements
- Congestion relief & traffic safety

- \$4.5 billion for “Corridor Mobility Improvement Account” for highly congested corridors statewide selected by the CTC based on recommendations from MTA. Projects must be nominated by 1/15/07, adopted by the CTC by 3/1/07 and must commence construction by 12/21/12. Eligible Gateway projects include the I-5.

- \$2.0 billion for infrastructure improvements along federally-designated “Trade Corridors of National Significance” - or other corridors that have a high volume of freight as determined by the CTC. The Business Transportation and Housing Agency must adopt a Goods Movement Action Plan by January 7, 2007; the I-710/Gerald Desmond Bridge projects are currently included in the draft plan. Projects will also be recommended by the County Transportation Commission (MTA). Projects in this category require a 50% non-state match.

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- \$1 billion for air quality emission reductions - to be distributed by the Air Resources Board. These funds are to be used for emissions reductions related to freight movements. Projects included in the I-710 Near -Term Air Quality Compendium may be eligible.
- \$4.5 billion for rail/transit projects – based on a formula 50% population and 50% transit operators based on passenger revenue. The LA County share is about \$940 million.
- \$2 billion to cities/counties by formula for street/road maintenance – to be distributed based on a population/fee paid registered vehicle formula
- \$2 billion for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) augmentation – distributed by statewide formula.
- \$1 billion for state-local partnership program - to be distributed by the CTC through the MTA.
- \$1 billion for security and disaster response – for projects that provide increased security and safety for transit operators as well as to develop disaster response transportation systems that move people, goods, and personnel after a disaster.
- \$250 million for grade separations – following the existing CPUC process, \$100 million will be used for high priority railroad crossing in consultation with the High Speed Rail Authority.
- \$750 million for highway safety rehabilitation – Funds distributed by the CTC for highway maintenance.
- \$200 million for school bus retrofit and replacement
- \$125 million for local bridge seismic retrofit.

Timelines:

- **12/1/06** - The California Transportation Commission (CTC) shall develop and adopt guidelines including regional programming targets and shall allocate funds to projects after reviewing Caltrans and regional agencies (MTA) submissions.
- **1/15/07** - Caltrans shall nominate projects for the allocation of funds on a statewide basis. Nominations shall be geographically balanced.
- **1/15/07** - A regional transportation agency or County Transportation Commission (MTA) responsible for the RTIP may nominate projects to the CTC.
- **3/1/07** - the CTC shall adopt a program of projects to be funded from the account.
- **12/21/12** - Projects must be able to start construction.

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Recommended Action

Receive and File report.

IV. Reports

2. Gateway Cities Comments - Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan-Task 5B

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See Attached PDF File

IV. Reports

3. MTA Soundwall Policy and Funding

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TO: Transportation Committee
FROM: Bonnie Lowenthal, Transportation Committee Chair
BY: Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy
SUBJECT: MTA Soundwall Policy and Funding

Issue

At the last Transportation Committee meeting a request was made to give a report on the MTA Soundwall Program and funding.

Background

In 1998, the responsibility for programming and funding soundwalls shifted from the State to the local Transportation Commissions (MTA). The MTA assumed the responsibility for funding and implementing the Caltrans ranked May 1989 Soundwall retrofit list for Los Angeles County.

The Post 1989 List has three project phases as well as priorities within the phases:

- Phase I Priority I – All soundwall projects along freeway segments where HOV lanes were constructed and soundwalls were installed on one side of the freeway. (Mostly along the 405).
- Phase I Priority II – Soundwall projects along freeway segments where the HOV lanes were constructed without warranted soundwalls. (170,210,405 – Gateway area, 605 in Santa Fe Springs)
- Phase I Priority III – Freeway segments that meet the eligibility requirements for Phase I soundwalls but were identified after the MTA Board action of April 27, 2000. (118, 134, 405)
- Phase II – All other qualified soundwall areas identified prior to the adoption of the policy (includes the I-710 Bell/South Gate).

Soundwall Implementation Status - In April of this year, the MTA authorized the release of construction packages for Phase I Priority I construction packages 2 and 3. The Phase I Priority I soundwalls were divided into seven soundwall packages; packages 2 & 3 will be under construction shortly; package 4 is in design, but construction funds have not been programmed. Design and construction funds for packages 5-7 have not been programmed.

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The MTA programmed \$88 million for Phase I Priority I. These funds covered Packages 1-3 and design on package 4. Annually funding is roughly based on the ability of Caltrans to deliver the projects each year for construction and the funding commitments to HOV construction. The current funding commitment will carry program implementation out until 2010, after which, additional funding must be programmed. Given the magnitude of the Post 1989 List (over \$1 billion) projects in Phase II may not be scheduled for design or construction for 10-15 years. In recognition of the length of time it may take to build the soundwalls; the MTA has created a process that allows cities to accelerate projects by advancing City funds for the design and construct the soundwalls.

Recommended Action

Discussion