

GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Transportation Committee

AGENDA

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

Note Start Time - 4:00 P.M. Meeting

Gateway Cities Council of Governments

MEETING REMOTE LOCATION: VIA ZOOM

Register Here: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hKM6TpIsRey6BTcrajpLCQ

AGENDA REPORTS AND OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE GATEWAY CITIES COG WEBSITE AT WWW.GATEWAYCOG.ORG.

ON MARCH 4, 2020, GOVERNOR NEWSOM PROCLAIMED A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO EXIST IN CALIFORNIA AS A RESULT OF THE THREAT OF COVID-19. THE GOVERNOR HAS ISSUED EXECUTIVE ORDERS THAT TEMPORARILY SUSPEND REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT, INCLUDING ALLOWING PUBLIC AGENCIES TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING AND TO MAKE PUBLIC MEETINGS ACCESSIBLE TELEPHONICALLY OR OTHERWISE ELECTRONICALLY TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: To address the Transportation Committee on any agenda item or a matter within the Transportation Committee's purview, please provide written comments by 3:00 p.m., September 2, 2020, via email to info@gatewaycog.org. All written comments submitted will become part of the official record.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA** - This is the time and place to change the order of the agenda, delete or add any agenda item(s).
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – All written submitted comments will be read at this time.
- V. **MATTERS FROM STAFF**

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR: All items under the Consent Calendar may be enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Calendar and acted upon separately by the Transportation Committee.

- A. Approval of Minutes – Minutes of the Transportation Committee Meeting of August 5, 2020

CONSENT CALENDAR ACTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS.

VII. REPORTS – MEMBERS AND STAFF

- A. Metro Matters, Metro Board Meetings and Other Topics of Interest, Oral Report by Mayor Robert Garcia, Metro Director

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

VIII. REPORTS – COMMITTEES/AGENCIES

- A. Presentation on Economic Conditions at the Port of Long Beach by Dr. Noel Hacegaba, Deputy Executive Director for Port of Long Beach

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- B. Update on State and Federal Legislative Activities by Raffi Haig Hamparian, Senior Director for Federal Affairs/Government Relations and Michael Turner, Deputy Executive Officer, Government Relations

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- C. Update on the I-710 Clean Truck Program from Ernesto Chaves, Deputy Executive Officer, Highway Programs, and Michael Cano, Deputy Executive Officer, Countywide Planning and Development

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- D. Presentation on the Metro Budget for FY 2021 from Drew Philips, Administration and Financial Services Manager, and Giovanna Gogreve, Senior Manager, Transportation Planning

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT,
POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON POSSIBLE
RECOMMENDATIONS

- E. Metro Technical Advisory Committee Update, Lisa Rapp, Lakewood
Director of Public Works

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT,
POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

IX. MATTERS FROM TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

X. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: New items will not be considered after 5:30 P.M. unless the Transportation Committee votes to extend the time limit. Any items on the agenda that are not completed will be forwarded to the next regular Transportation Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2020.

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 ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING.

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR
Item A
Approval of Minutes for
August 5, 2020

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, August 5, 2020
via Zoom Teleconference**

The Meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm, attendance was taken by roll call:

MEMBERS PRESENT: COG Board President – Mayor Maria Davila, City of South Gate, Mayor Ali Saleh – COG Second Vice President - City of Bell, Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier, Thaddeus McCormack – City Manager, City of Lakewood, Martin Reyes – Supervisor Hilda Solis Office, Lisa Rapp – City of Lakewood, Commissioner Steven Neal –POLB, Tracy Beidleman – Long Beach Transit, Rachel Roque – Supervisor Hahn’s Office, William Rawlings, City Manager – City of Artesia, Bill Pagett, Public Works Officer, COG Past President, Diane DuBois – City of Lakewood.

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy Pfeffer, Melani Smith, Karen Heit, Stephanie Cadena, Joel Arevalos - GCCOG staff, Theresa Dau-Ngo, Manager, Transportation Development, Nina Turner, Local/Regional Liaison - Port of Long Beach, Sara Baumann – Long Beach Transit, Mark Vallianatos - Executive Officer, Office of Extraordinary Innovation, Mark Dierking – Community Relations Manager, Michael Turner – Metro, Norm Emerson, Emerson Associates, Justin Ramirez, Luke Klipp – Metro Transportation Deputy, Mayor Garcia’s Office, Jocelyn Rivera-Olivas – Office of Supervisor Hahn, Jennifer Alderete, Karen Lee – City of Artesia, Andres Molina, WSP.

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 pm, by COG President Mayor Maria Davila, City of South Gate.

There was no general public comment. There were no matters from staff. The Consent Calendar was approved, with Mayor Ali Saleh, City of Bell, abstaining. Mayor Davila called on the MTA report; Justin Ramirez from Mayor Garcia’s office introduced himself as the new Metro Transportation Deputy and described his role with the City of Long Beach. He indicated that MTA was dark in July and there was no report on Metro Board activities. He announced that there will be a report from the Port of Long Beach (POLB) concerning port activities. Mayor Davila welcomed him on behalf of the Transportation Committee. Luke Klipp announced that there is a NextGen Meeting next month. A motion was made to receive and file the report.

Mayor Davila introduced Michael Turner from Metro to make the state and federal legislative updates. Turner discussed the federal reaction to the COVID-19 crisis. MTA is pushing to making sure that transit receives access to some of the funding. He mentioned the INVEST Act which is probably not going anywhere this year but Metro intends to stay on top of it. On the state level, he went over two bills modifying the California Environmental Quality Act; the first bill is AB 757 which highlights the pillar projects shortening the potential litigation period for environmental challenges. Changes to the bill

include meeting certain GHG reductions and VMT targets. Turner mentioned SB 288 (Wiener) to create new statutory exemptions for bus-only lanes, certain bicycle projects and express lanes. There is discussion to remove express lanes from consideration from this exemption. He also mentioned bills that address employment and worker's compensation AB 196 and AB 664. Turner went on to mention two bills, AB 3268 and SB1383, which expand the application of family leave. Both bills are supported by the league. GCCOG Exec. Dir. Nancy Pfeffer asked whether the federal transportation reauthorization would include a match for clean trucks to match the Metro I-710 program allocation of \$50 million. Turner replied that Metro would like to target state funding for that purpose. Pfeffer asked about AB 757 and the pillar projects, Turner said the legislation addressed GHG reduction and VMT reduction. She wanted to know how the COG transit projects stack up against the performance metrics. All four pillar projects qualify. She asked about EO 19-19, and how it might impact subregions. Lisa Rapp – City of Lakewood asked about scooters being allowed to move unregulated into cities. Turner indicated that MTA is deferring to the cities on those issues – Lisa Rapp mentioned that MTA was looking at parking the devices at Metro stations which are in cities. A Motion was made to receive and file.

Mayor Davila introduced Mark Vallianatos for the MTA Office of Extraordinary Innovation to make a presentation on the MTA COVID Recovery Plan.

Vallianatos went over the Task Force composition and goals for producing a report by September 30. The next report is due next Monday. Eighteen of the recommendations have been elevated for public consumption and comment. The program is being focused through the lens of equity through a rapid equity assessment. He reviewed the equity metrics.

He went over the rider survey results from Transit, an LA based transit app. This survey helped determine rider attitudes. He reviewed the recommendations' organization by time frame. He reviewed some of the more recent recommendations such as virtual connections and improved air circulation on buses. He went over the bicycle recommendation including a study on the utilization of bicycles, and the rapid implementation of bike lanes. He went over other recommendations concerning the rapid implementation of bus-only lanes and enhanced working at home.

He indicated that there are other recommendations that are not quite as ready and will be brought forward as they mature.

Mayor Davila called for questions from Fernando Dutra. He wanted to know how long should it take for these measures to be implemented and how these measures are funded, Vallianatos replied that most of the items are low cost – those that aren't will be considered later. Vallianatos discussed the vending of masks. He answered a question about leaving windows open on buses – some buses have windows that don't open.

Karen Heit, GCCOG Transportation gave an overview of issues/concerns/questions concerning the COVID Recovery Plan. She discussed the following concerns and questions.

1. **Rider-led Recovery** - Non-riders should also provide input
2. **Safer Streets for All** - Expand Open Streets event grants to demonstrate Safe/Slow Streets program through 2021
3. **Create Safe Environments** - Investigate placing hand sanitizer on buses and trains
4. **Masks for Riders** - Continue to pass out masks to reduce conflict and the spread of COVID
6. **Contactless Payment** - Is this a new system that would require new equipment or modification of existing fare equipment?
7. **Virtual Connection** - Collaborate with cities/CBOs to facilitate virtual meetings
8. **Fresh Air, Safe Travel** - Investigate microbial air filters on buses/trains
9. **Match Service with Demand** - Continue to match service with demand and maintain the ability to socially distance to the greatest extent.
10. **Better Bike Share** - Evaluate bike share usage before expanding the project. Examine dockless systems
11. **More Biking** - Accelerating Measure M bike infrastructure should not be done in a financial vacuum. The impacts of COVID on sales tax needs to be considered comprehensively before accelerating any particular project.
12. **Working from Home** - Working from home should be examined as a mode that is here to stay. MTA should examine Work from Home as a mode
13. **Faster Buses** - The current reduction in congestion will not last as stay at home lifts and commerce resumes. Bus-only lanes are not quick to implement.
14. **“We’re here for you”** - Dedicate marketing and communication to informing the public about strategies to address COVID.
15. **Customer Ambassadors** - Expand ambassadors to major bus stops
16. **New Mobility for the Way Forward** - Examine no or low cost partnering with private companies for new forms of mobility.
17. **Reimagining Projects** - Remove this recommendation as it conflicts with the LRTP and Measures R & M that define major transportation projects.
18. **Home for All** - Expand assistance to agencies responsible for addressing homelessness.

Fernando Dutra asked about MTA funding of housing through bonding. Vallianatos said the MTA will work with stakeholders including cities for housing on MTA property. A Motion was passed to approve forwarding the comment letter to the GCCOG Board.

Exec. Dir. Pfeffer announced that a Lisa Rapp report was left off of the agenda. Rapp gave a brief report concerning the MTA TAC this morning. The transit funding allocation projection was released this morning and the CARES Act replaced some of the funding. There was a sharp decline in sales tax revenues and that will be reflected in the budget. Recovery may not occur until 2022. There is an 11% estimated loss of funding from sales

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tax revenue. MTA reviewed that some cities have not drawn down CARES Act funding. MTA is undertaking a comprehensive pricing study to review the fare structure. This study will look at other systems and their structures.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm in memory of Robert Garcia's mother, Gaby O'Donnell.