

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
16401 Paramount Blvd.
Paramount, California
February 1, 2017**

President Austin called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT: President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Second Vice President Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier
Immediate Past President Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Cinde MacGugan Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member George Ray, City of Cerritos
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Edward Eng, City of La Mirada
Member Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member Cheri Kelley, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Bob Archuleta, City of Pico Rivera
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Joseph Martinez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member Herlinda Chico, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn
Member Doug Drummond, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

ABSENT: First Vice President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
Member Ivan Altamirano, City of Commerce
Member Fernando Vasquez, City of Downey
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Edwin Hernandez, City of Lynwood
Member Sergio Calderon, City of Maywood
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia; Los Angeles County

Supervisor Janice Hahn; Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Downey Director of Public Works Mohamed Mostahkami; Lakewood Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell; Sharon Weissman, Transportation Deputy, Office of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia; Vernon Director of Public Works Derek Wieske; Phil Ansell, Homeless Initiative Director, County of Los Angeles; Michael D. Castillo, Senior Analyst, Chief Executive Office, County of Los Angeles; Lance Grindle, Head, City Services, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Maryam Adhami, City Services, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Nina Turner, Local/Regional Liaison, Port of Long Beach; Tonya Martin, Field Representative, Office of Senator Ricardo Lara; Veronica Zendejas, District Director, Office of Assemblyman Anthony Rendon; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Robert Calix, Transportation Planning Manager, Metro; Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Meredith Berkson, Director, PATH; Steve Forster, Vice President of Municipal Services, Infrastructure Engineers; Jerard Wright, Move LA; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Transportation Analyst Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Consultant Engineer/I-5 JPA Executive Director Yvette Kirrin; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Kekoa Anderson.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Austin.

President Austin announced that the report from PATH would be taken up immediately following the presentation on the County Homeless Initiative.

President Austin introduced Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, who addressed the Board during public comments. Supervisor Hahn said she would be fighting to accelerate the region's Measure M projects. She said Metro is considering two unsolicited bids that would move the West Santa Ana Branch project up by 15 years. She said the Gold Line East Side extension and the I-5 project also need to be accelerated.

Supervisor Hahn spoke on the importance of County Measure H on the March 7th ballot. She said there is an incredible homeless problem in the county, with an estimated 47,000 people sleeping on the streets on any given night.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Sharif, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Phil Ansell, Homeless Initiative Director, County of Los Angeles, and Michael D. Castillo, Senior Analyst, Chief Executive Office, County of Los Angeles, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the County's Homeless Initiative and the pending Measure H

ballot initiative. They directed the Board's attention to the homeless count numbers that indicate that the 2016 homeless population had reached almost 47,000, of which over 34,000 were unsheltered. In response, the County in February 2016 adopted a coordinated set of 47 strategies to combat homelessness covering six areas: preventing homelessness; subsidized housing; increasing income; providing case management and services; creating a coordinated system; and increasing affordable/homeless housing.

Mr. Ansell said there is an unmet need of \$450 million per year to provide homeless housing services, not including the cost of new construction. He said the County currently had identified \$100 million in one-time funds. He said the proposed one quarter cent sales tax increase on the March 7th ballot would produce an estimated \$355 million annually over the next ten years to combat homelessness. Mr. Ansell reviewed the various components of the County's strategies that would be eligible for funding under Measure H and discussed the timeline for implementation of the strategies should the ballot measure be successful.

Member Archuleta said many mentally ill homeless are in county jails and should be pulled out and placed in other facilities.

It was moved by Member Uranga, seconded by Second Vice President Dutra, that the Board of Directors support the passage of Measure H. The motion was approved, with Member Dunton opposed.

Meredith Berkson presented a report from PATH. She thanked the Board for voting to support Measure H, saying it would allow PATH to help countless more individuals. She offered to come and make presentations to individual city councils.

President Austin asked Ms. Berkson how the Annual Homeless Count went. She responded that 100% of the COG cities had opted in to participate in the count.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Saleh, seconded by Member Sharif, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Deputy Executive Director reported that because the term of former Board Member Luis Marquez on the Downey City Council had expired, there now exists a vacancy for a Board Member to be appointed to the Board of Directors of the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. He said the appointment process requires the Board to send a list of nominees to the Speaker of the Assembly, who makes the appointment to the Conservancy from that list.

Member Zamora nominated Immediate Past President Saleh, Member Wilson nominated Member Sharif, and Member Sharif nominated Member Wilson to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board of Directors. It was the consensus of the Board to forward these three nominations to the Speaker of the Assembly.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the recent award of Proposition 1 grants by the Rivers

and Mountains Conservancy Board. He said a total of nine grants were awarded to projects within the Gateway Cities.

It was moved by Member Lima, seconded by Member Sharif, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-710 Project Committee. She said the Technical Advisory Committee, Corridor Advisory Committee, and Project Committee had all met during the past month. She said there is an aggressive schedule of community meetings regarding the technical aspects of the EIR, which should be released in June.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. She said both local TACs have been tasked with prioritizing projects from both freeway corridors for the second decade of Measure R funding. She said each city has been asked to identify a number one project.

President Austin welcomed Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia as the new MTA Board representative for the COG. Mayor Garcia presented the report from the Transportation Committee. He said MTA CEO Phil Washington feels good about the Eco Rapid Transit project being moved up as a public/private partnership project to accelerate construction. He said that would move the completion date to 2024. He said he is working with Metro staff to address the issue of local return to small cities so that every city receives a reasonable minimum. Mayor Garcia said the Board is looking at restructuring security along the entire county system.

It was moved by Member Sharif, seconded by Member Lima, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Nancy Pfeffer presented an update on the Cap and Trade program. She said it is too early to tell how much Cap and Trade funding will be available in the State budget. She said the COG was successful in obtaining the smaller of two grants from SCAG, but not the large one. However, she said SCAG has said additional state funding may come in which would enable the COG to do a Climate Action Plan framework.

It was moved by Member Lima, seconded by Member Sharif, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA. She said there would be several full freeway closures in upcoming weeks during the demolition of the Valley View bridge. She reported that the bid specifications for 7,700 trees had been recently approved for planting in five cities as a mitigation measure. She said the JPA continues to push for funding of the EIR from I-605 north to I-710.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She referred the Board to a flyer regarding the upcoming meeting of the Los Angeles Division of the League which would feature the new executive director of the League. She said the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee had taken up SB 1, which would provide

for \$16.1 billion in transportation funding, including \$2 billion for local streets and roads deferred maintenance. She said it is important for cities to send letters of support to Senator Tony Mendoza, who sits on the committee.

There was no report from SCAG.

There was no report from Eco-Rapid Transit.

There was no report from the South Coast AQMD.

Metro Transportation Planning Manager Robert Calix presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council. He said the sector council would be meeting next week. He said a large survey of riders shows that Metro's on-time service is improving. Mr. Calix announced that Julia Brown had been named to be the new Gateway Cities representative replacing David Hershenson.

It was moved by Member Sharif, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the agency reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Austin said he attended the Investing in Place breakfast on Monday, which focused on prioritizing the expenditure of Measure M funds.

Adjournment: It was moved by Member Sharif to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.