

**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  
June 7, 2017**

President Austin called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

PRESENT: President Al Austin, City of Long Beach  
First Vice President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park  
Immediate Past President Ali Saleh, City of Bell  
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia  
Member Anni Marshall, City of Avalon  
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens  
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
Member Jim Edwards, City of Cerritos  
Member Ivan Altamirano, City of Commerce  
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton  
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy  
Member Fernando Vasquez, City of Downey  
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member John Lewis, City of La Mirada  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Joaquin Lanuza, City of Maywood  
Member Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk  
Member Diane J. Martinez, City of Paramount  
Member Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Member Maria Davila, City of South Gate  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Javier Hernandez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis  
Member Herlinda Chico, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn  
Member Doug Drummond, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

ABSENT: Second Vice President Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier  
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry  
Member Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach  
Member Edwin Hernandez, City of Lynwood  
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello  
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors and**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Gateway Cities Council of Governments**  
**June 7, 2017**  
**Page 2 of 6**

ALSO PRESENT: Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Hawaiian Gardens City Manager Ernie Hernandez; Artesia City Clerk Pradeep Elayath; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Sharon Weissman, Board Deputy, Office of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia; Pico Rivera Director of Public Works James Enriquez; Lance Grindle, Head, City Services, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Anakaren Monroy, Student Worker, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis; Nina Turner, Local & Regional Government Relations Liaison, Port of Long Beach; Saeed Ali, Policy Advisor, Office of Senator Tony Mendoza; David Frownfelter, Intern, Office of Senator Ricardo Lara; Veronica Zendejas, District Director, Office of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon; Former Board Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount; Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco-Rapid Transit; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Kevin Gilhooley, SCAG; Meredith Berkson, Regional Director, PATH; Dan Knapp, Executive Director/CEO, Conservation Corps of Long Beach; Rick Munoz, Coordinator, Conservation Corps of Long Beach; 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 Kekoa Anderson; GCCOG Consultant Engineer/I-5 JPA Executive Director Yvette Kirrin.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Austin.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Saleh, seconded by Member Zamora, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dan Knapp, Executive Director/CEO, and Rick Munoz, Coordinator, Conservation Corps of Long Beach, gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Board on recent activities of the Corps. They said the youth served by the Corps participate in all of the following programs: conservation programs, education programs, and support services. They described recent projects that the Corps has participated in, including tree planting in South Gate, Puente Hill Trail maintenance, Long

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors and**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Gateway Cities Council of Governments**  
**June 7, 2017**  
**Page 3 of 6**

Beach Public Works and Parks, Recreation, and Marine projects, City of Norwalk Golf Course, and Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel River projects.

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

Saeed Ali, Policy Advisor to State Senator Tony Mendoza, spoke to the Board regarding Senate Bill 268, which, he said, was authorized by Senator Mendoza to address a fundamental issue of fairness regarding representation of the smaller cities on the MTA Board of Directors. He said the 87 cities outside of Los Angeles represent 52% of the population in the County, but hold only 31% of the seats on the MTA Board. He said this has resulted in uneven allocation of resources and services. He said the current language of the bill reduces the seats held by the county supervisors on the MTA Board from five to two and adds three seats for the smaller cities.

Mr. Ali said there are two alternatives being suggested by Senator Mendoza. One would put the bill on hold until 2019 to give the County time to come up with a fair alternative. The other would be simply to expand the board's city representation but keep the five county supervisorial seats. He said Senator Mendoza's request is for the COG to support the concept of fair representation on the MTA Board.

Member DuBois said that, if we look at a map of Los Angeles County and see where the dollars have been spent, we will see there is a need for better representation.

Member Hernandez read a letter from Supervisor Solis expressing her opposition to SB 268, in particular the provision to reduce the number of seats for the Board of Supervisors from five to two. She said this provision would reduce the number of women serving on the MTA Board, creating an imbalance across the county. She said she opposes the top-down approach in Senate Bill 268, and instead supports a locally driven process to ensure equitable and fair representation on the Metro board.

Member Drummond said the City of Los Angeles has one-third of the population of the county, but receives two-thirds of the highway money.

President Austin said this bill is very important to the COG. He said the City of Long Beach has taken a position that the City needs a permanent seat on the MTA Board. He said he would ask that the bill be amended to include a permanent seat for Long Beach. He said the Gateway Cities seat would be separated from Long Beach.

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors and**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Gateway Cities Council of Governments**  
**June 7, 2017**  
**Page 4 of 6**

It was moved by President Austin, seconded by Member Vasquez, to support Senate Bill 268 if amended to include a permanent seat for the City of Long Beach.

Member DuBois said she could support the idea of Long Beach having its own seat.

A substitute motion was made by Member Dunton, seconded by Member Zamora, to support Senate Bill 268 in its current form. The substitute motion was approved, with Member Hernandez voting no, with President Austin and Member Chico abstaining.

President Austin called former Board Member Gene Daniels forward to receive a plaque in recognition of his years of service as a Board Member, Committee Chair, and former President, saying he had been a warrior for the Gateway Cities for many years. Mr. Daniels said the Board should remember why the COG was formed: to organize because all of the transportation dollars were going to the City of Los Angeles.

Kekoa Anderson presented a no report from the Conservancy Committee. He said the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board had not met for the past three months, but would be meeting again on June 26<sup>th</sup>. He said an upcoming meeting would focus on the Los Angeles River.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said no meetings had taken place the past month, but that the EIR is on track to be released on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. She said Metro has been meeting with cities to inform them of the scope changes in the I-605 EIR project; Caltrans had recommended that one environmental document be prepared for the entire corridor. She said HOT lanes are now on the table for all freeway expansion projects. She reported that the development of the Measure M Guidelines has come along nicely, consistent with the letter sent from the COG.

Sharon Weissman presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said the Transportation Committee did not meet today. She reported that the MTA Board had approved a new low-income fare subsidy program using tap cards.

Member Wilson asked if Mayor Garcia and Supervisor Hahn had spoken in favor of a minimum floor of Measure M local return for smaller cities. Ms. Weissman

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors and**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Gateway Cities Council of Governments**  
**June 7, 2017**  
**Page 5 of 6**

responded that Metro staff had recommended a \$100,000 minimum, but her understanding is that the advisory committee does not support a minimum.

Meredith Berkson presented a report from PATH. She referred to the recently released results of the 2017 Homeless Count, which found a 23% increase county-wide, and a 50% increase in SPA 7, which is composed of 23 of the COG cities. She said the city level data has not yet been released. She said the largest increases in SPA 7 can be attributed to families and transitional aged youth. She said affordable housing is especially at a premium in southeast Los Angeles County. Also, LAHSA Executive Director Peter Lynn attributed at least part of the increase in the numbers of transitional youth to better counting procedures. Ms. Berkson said the city level data will give us a better sense of where the large increases are, and what the game plan for addressing those increases will be.

Nancy Pfeffer presented a report on the Cap and Trade program. She reported that no bill yet exists to extend the State's Cap and Trade program past 2020. However, the last quarterly auction brought in \$1 billion.

Mike Egan presented a report from the Executive Director Recruitment Committee. He referred the Board to a draft recruitment brochure for the Executive Director position.

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

There was no report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She referred the Board to the League's position paper opposing SB 649, which would remove cities' authority over small cell wireless facilities. She urged cities to send letters of opposition.

Kevin Gilhooley presented a report from SCAG. He thanked the COG cities for sending a strong delegation to the SCAG General Assembly. He announced that Bellflower Councilmember Sonny Santa Ines had been elected to fill the vacancy on the SCAG Regional Council. He invited the Board to attend the Annual Demographic Workshop scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Michael Kodama presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. He reported that three public scoping meetings on the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor Project were scheduled this month in Bellflower, Huntington Park, and South Gate, as well as downtown Los Angeles.

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors and**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Gateway Cities Council of Governments**  
**June 7, 2017**  
**Page 6 of 6**

Julia Brown, Metro Communications Manager, distributed flyers announcing the West Santa Ana Branch scoping meetings. She said Metro has a transit program for educating older adults on using public transportation.

There was no report from the South Coast AQMD.

There was no report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council.

It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the agency reports.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

There were no matters from the President.

It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn at 7:57 p.m.