

**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
September 6, 2017**

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

PRESENT: President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
First Vice President Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier
Second Vice President Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk
Immediate Past President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Naresh Solanki, City of Cerritos
Member Oralia Rebollo, City of Commerce
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member John Lewis, City of La Mirada
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 Michael Ervin, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn
Member Lori Ann Guzman, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

ABSENT: Member Cinde MacGugan Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Fernando Vasquez, City of Downey
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach
Member Edwin Hernandez, City of Lynwood
Member Joaquin Lanuza, City of Maywood
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member Diane J. Martinez, City of Paramount
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Whittier City Manager Jeff Collier; Bell Gardens Public Works Director Chau Vu; Downey Public Works Director Mohammad Mostahkami; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Pico Rivera Director of Public Works James Enriquez; Artesia Interim City Clerk Pradeep Elayath; South Gate Senior Engineer Gladis Deras; Vernon Project Engineer Brandon Araujo; Lance Grindle, Principal Engineer, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Gary Gero, Chief Sustainability Officer, County of Los Angeles; Sharon Weissman, Board Deputy, Office of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia; Antonio Chapa, District Director, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Nina Turner, Local & Regional Government Relations Liaison, Port of Long Beach; Christopher Craig, Field Representative, Assembly Member Cristina Garcia; Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, SCAG; Kevin Gilhooley, Regional Affairs, SCAG; Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Kim Barnette, Policy Planning Coordinator, LAHSA; Kenon Joseph, Regional Coordinator, LAHSA; Bill Stracker, Senior Project Manager, Onward Engineering; 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.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Christian Hernandez.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member Tercero, seconded by First Vice President Dutra, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Pineda presented a plaque to Immediate Past President Austin and thanked him for his service the past year as President of the Board of Directors. Immediate Past President Austin thanked the Board for the recognition and said he had learned quite a bit over the past year, learning on the job.

Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director of the Southern California Association of Governments, gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Board on SCAG's programs and activities. He invited the Board to attend SCAG's Economic Summit, scheduled for November 9, 2017, which will focus on housing and housing affordability. He pointed out that it now requires an annual income of \$120,000 to purchase a median income home in Los Angeles County at \$650,000. He said it is even higher in Orange County, where a median priced home costs \$705,000.

Mr. Ikhata said the next iteration of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy will be required to meet a target of 21% reduction in greenhouse gases, a target the region cannot meet. He asked for the Board's support for SCAG's request to the California Air Resources Board that the target be reduced to 18%.

Mr. Ikhata said the good news is that the State's passage of SB 1 assures that the Regional Transportation Plan will be almost fully funded. He said transportation is the key to building the economy.

Kimberly Barnette, Regional Coordinator for Policy and Planning, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2017 Homeless Count. She introduced Kenon Joseph, SPA 6 Regional Coordinator for LAHSA, who assisted her in the presentation. Ms. Barnette reported that Service Planning Area 7, which covers a substantial portion of the Gateway Cities area, had a 50% increase in the number of homeless counted over the last year's count. She thanked the cities for their participation in the 2017 Count, saying that all of the cities within the COG had participated.

Gary Gero, Chief Sustainability Officer, County of Los Angeles, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Los Angeles Community Choice Energy. He said Community Choice gives cities a choice on supplying electric power to their residents as opposed to relying on Southern California Edison. He reviewed the steps that cities need to follow to participate in the County's Community Choice program (LACCE). He said there is no cost to cities to join during the six-month enrollment period, which extends to January 1, 2018.

Mr. Gero explained that Southern California Edison would continue to bill customers for their electricity use, but would include a line item noting the LACCE power charge. He said the primary risk in forming LACCE is that it will be unable to stay competitive with Southern California Edison under certain circumstances. However, he said, the LACCE Business Plan concludes that there are no reasonable set of risk-related circumstances that would harm the ability of LACCE to stay competitive with Edison.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by First Vice President Dutra, to receive and file the SCAG, LAHSA, and County presentations. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Pineda presented a report from the Executive Director Recruitment Committee. He said the Committee would be interviewing eight candidates for the Executive Director position on Monday, September 18, and that the finalists from that interview will be forwarded to be interviewed by the Executive Committee on Monday, September 25, at 1:00 p.m. He said the intention is to present a recommendation for approval by the Board at the October 4 meeting.

First Vice President Dutra expressed concern that the COG Budget assumes that the position of Executive Director would be vacant until January 1, 2018. After discussion among the Board members, it was the consensus of the Board to maintain the start date

of January 1 for the new Executive Director and that the candidates be notified of the expected start date.

The Deputy Executive Director reported that there was a vacancy for a city manager on the Executive Director Recruitment Committee due to City Managers Steering Committee Chairman Mike Egan leaving the City of Norwalk. He said the City Managers Steering Committee is not scheduled to meet again to elect a new chair until after the first round of interviews with the Executive Director candidates.

It was moved by First Vice President Dutra, seconded by Immediate Past President Austin, to appoint Whittier City Manager Jeff Collier to fill the city manager vacancy on the Executive Director Recruitment Committee. The Deputy General Counsel explained the appointment would only be to the Recruitment Committee and that the Board would not be selecting the chair of the City Managers Steering Committee. Member Wilson expressed that the selection of the City Managers Steering Committee representative should be left to the city managers. A substitute motion was made by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Aceituno, to request the City Managers Steering Committee to hold a special meeting to select a representative to the Executive Director Recruitment Committee. The substitute motion was approved by a show of hands, with Member Javier Hernandez abstaining.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. She reviewed the schedule of upcoming meetings of the Conservancy and the Watershed Authority. She said there would be a new round of funding for grants available from the Conservancy after the first of the year.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. She presented a PowerPoint which provided an update on the I-710 project, including the purpose and need for the project, the community participation structure, and a description of the two build alternatives: Alternative 5C, which modernizes and widens the I-710 freeway at an estimated cost of \$6 billion; and Alternative 7, which modernizes I-710 and adds a "clean emissions" freight corridor at a total estimated cost of \$10 billion. She reported that the EIR is still out for public review and comment, and summarized the comments made at three recent public hearings.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. She said that the Technical Advisory Committee had been working over the past month on funding a variety of projects. She said a study of SR-91 examined proposed improvements to the Central Avenue and Wilmington Avenue interchanges, as well as adding auxiliary lanes to SR-91.

President Pineda announced at 8:25 p.m. that the Board and Executive Committee had both lost their quorums, but that the remaining members could still hear the reports.

Sharon Weissman presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said there was no MTA Board meeting scheduled the past month. She reported that Senator Tony

Mendoza had amended his bill to restructure the MTA Board to provide that each of the four sectors would have two representatives and that there would be a permanent seat for the City of Long Beach. She said the bill is now a two-year bill. She reported that 25% of the Blue Line cars had now been replaced.

Nancy Pfeffer presented a report on the Cap and Trade program. She said a new CivicSpark fellow will be hired under the agreement approved by the Board. She said the current CivicSpark fellow, Noe Martinez, was selected to give a speech at the CivicSpark graduation ceremony in Sacramento.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA. She said the Alondra and Carmenita sections were now completed and that the Rosecrans/Bloomfield section was 90% complete.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

There was no report from SCAG.

Karen Heit presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. She said that a kickoff event for the Transit Oriented Corridor grant project had been held last week.

There was no report from the South Coast AQMD.

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

Member Wilson said the Executive Committee members should be reminded to remain at the meeting in order to maintain a quorum.

President Pineda announced the appointments of Member Edwin Hernandez to the Committee on Homelessness, Member Christian Hernandez and La Mirada Councilmember Steve DeRuse to the SCAG Committee on Human and Economic Development, and Member Davila to the Transportation Committee.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.