

**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
Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts
12700 Center Court Drive
Cerritos, California
December 2, 2015**

President Saleh called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

PRESENT: President Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Second Vice President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Cinde MacGugan-Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member George Ray, City of Cerritos
Member Oralia Rebollo, City of Commerce
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy
Member Luis Marquez, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Edward Eng, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Salvador Alatorre, City of Lynwood
Member Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Owen Newcomer, City of Whittier
Member Connie M. Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Joseph Martinez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis

ABSENT: First Vice President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Immediate Past President Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach
Member Jack Hadjinian, City of Montebello
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Jay Sarno, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Member Tracy Egoscue, Port of Long Beach

ALSO PRESENT: Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Jorge Rifa; Bell Gardens

Director of Public Works Chau Vu; Downey Director of Public Works Mohammad Mostahkami; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Lakewood Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Pico Rivera Associate Engineer Gladis Deras; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Tomasz Babiskiewicz, Associate Director of Outreach, PATH; Irene Muro, Executive Director, Whittier First Day; Maria Alcala, Housing Navigator, Whittier First Day; Patrick Bouchard, Outreach Navigator, Whittier First Day; Scott Olsen, Outreach Navigator, Whittier First Day; Kim Barnette, SPA 7 Regional Coordinator, LAHSA; Deepak Bahl, Program Director, USC Center for Economic Development; Dion Jackson, Program Director, USC Center for Economic Development; Stephanie Pincetl, Director and Professor in Residence, UCLA Center for Sustainable Communities; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; Gerald M. Caton, Chair, GCCOG Economic Development Working Group; GCCOG Consultant Engineer and I-5 JPA Executive Director Yvette Kirrin; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Kekoa Anderson; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Hernandez.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

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

Gerald Caton, Chairman of the COG's Economic Development Working Group, gave an introduction to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Gateway Cities region as prepared by the University of Southern California Center for Economic Development. Mr. Caton said this was the first updated CEDS prepared for the Gateway Cities in ten years and that, once it is submitted to and approved by the Economic Development Administration, it will make every city within the subregion eligible to apply for EDA funds for economic development projects. He introduced Dion Jackson and Deepak Bahl of the USC Center for Economic Development, who proceeded to give a PowerPoint presentation on the Gateway Cities CEDS.

Mr. Bahl reviewed the demographic findings of the CEDs, pointing out that the subregion's population of over 2 million represents 20% of the population of Los Angeles County. Among the findings: the Gateway Cities region has a higher percentage of jobs in manufacturing, transportation, and wholesale trade when

compared to the state, as well as a higher percentage of blue collar jobs to white collar jobs. He should that the 24 month average of unemployment in the Gateway Cities was more than 2% over the national average of 9.5%. Mr. Bahl reviewed the strengths and weaknesses with the region with regard to the significant economic sectors of transportation, education/workforce development, medical care, manufacturing, and logistics.

Mr. Bahl summarized the goals and strategies contained in the CEDS, including industry cluster development of the manufacturing, logistics, and health care sectors; collaborating with educational institutions to address the needs of employers; making land use processes and permitting consistent with the best management practices across the region to attract development; developing and maintaining infrastructure; encouraging regional collaboration; and supporting efforts to establish economic development tools.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Hernandez, to approve the Gateway Cities Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Stephanie Pincetl, Director of the California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the LA Energy Atlas, an interactive website through which users may access disaggregated energy data. She said the Center had attained building level energy usage data to build a “ground up” energy atlas. Dr. Pincetl said local governments need this data to inform energy programs and to build meaningful greenhouse gas inventories. With regard to the Gateway Cities, she said energy usage patterns are diverse. Compared to other COGs, Gateway Cities has the lowest median energy consumption for all buildings.

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

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

There was no report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee.

There was no report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee

There was no report from the Transportation Committee.

Tomasz Babiskiewicz, Associate Director of Outreach, presented a report from PATH. He reported that 1,115 formerly homeless individuals had been housed by the Gateway Connections program since October 2012. He said PATH is coordinating three times a month with the Department of Mental Health, Veterans Administration, and LAHSA on joint outreach to the homeless.

Mr. Babiskiewicz introduced Irene Muro, the new Executive Director of Whittier First Day, who addressed the Board regarding the activities of her organization, which covers Local Coordinating Area 2. She identified the cities served by her organization as Whittier, Montebello, La Mirada, Pico Rivera, and Santa Fe Springs, along with the County unincorporated Whittier area. Since the inception of the program, there have been 1,173 unduplicated individuals served in LCA 2, with 208 having achieved permanent housing. She highlighted a recent success story involving a previously homeless Whittier resident who was housed after over ten years of homelessness.

Kim Barnette, SPA 7 Regional Coordinator for the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, addressed the Board on the upcoming annual homeless count. She encouraged all cities to opt in to participate in the count and said she would be approaching the city managers of the cities that have yet done so. She said a “hot spots” workshop would be held on December 17th at the Gateway Cities COG offices.

Member Newcomer, Chair of the Committee on Homelessness, praised PATH for its success in housing 1,115 homeless individuals in the three years of the program.

There was no report from the Committee on Sustainability.

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

There was no report from the I-5 Joint Powers Authority.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the League had held a strategic planning session and approved the following strategic goals for 2016: 1) increase funding for critical water and infrastructure needs; 2) improve housing affordability; and 3) update the local government tax structure to deal with the new economy and promote growth.

Nancy Pfeffer presented a report from SCAG. She announced that a workshop would be held on December 8th at SCAG on Cap and Trade funding entitled “California Gold”.

Karen Heit presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. She said the recent Transportation Summit in Artesia was well attended and heard presentations from Senator Tony Mendoza, SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata, and MTA Executive Director Phil Washington.

There was no report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

David Hershenson presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council. He announced that there would be free bus service on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve on all Metro lines.

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

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

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

There were no matters from the President.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p. m.