President Dunton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT:  President Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
First Vice President Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Second Vice President Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens  
Immediate Past President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate  
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia  
Member Michael Ponce, City of Avalon  
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos  
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce  
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton  
Member Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy  
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
Member Larry Mowles, City of La Mirada  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach  
Member Salvador Alatorre, City of Lynwood  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Cheri Kelley, City of Norwalk  
Member Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Joseph Serrano, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier  
Member Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe  
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ABSENT:  Member Ana Maria Quintana, City of Bell  
Member Luis Marquez, City of Downey  
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights  
Member from the City of Long Beach  
Member Jack Hadjinian, City of Montebello  
Member Angie Castro, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Ex Officio Member Christopher Lytle, Port of Long Beach

ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Bell Gardens Assistant City Manager John Oropeza;
Roll was taken through self-introductions.

First Vice President Daniels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

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

At 6:05 p.m., President Dunton declared a recess for the purpose of taking the annual photograph of the Board of Directors. The meeting resumed at 6:27 p.m.

MTA Chief Executive Officer Arthur T. Leahy introduced a PowerPoint presentation regarding the proposed extension of the Measure R half cent sales tax. MTA Deputy Executive Officer David Yale highlighted the main points of the extension, saying that it would maintain the funding commitments to the previously identified projects. He identified projects within the Gateway Cities subregion that receive Measure R funding, including funds for municipal bus lines; the Eastside Transit Corridor Phase II project; the West Santa Ana Branch Corridor; I-605 Corridor “Hot Spots”; and the I-710 South Corridor Project. Mr. Yale said that the preliminary polling results are very favorable towards an extension. Measure R currently expires in mid-2039. The proposed extension would continue it until the taxpayers decide to eliminate it. The proposed extension requires state legislation to authorize an election, action by the MTA Board to set an election, and two-thirds approval by the voters in November, which is when it is hoped to be on the ballot.
Member Dobson stated that Compton has an unemployment rate of over 20%. She said their need is for jobs and asked how they would get them. Doug Failing, Director of Highway Programs for MTA, responded that MTA’s Construction Careers Policy now targets areas of high unemployment. He said MTA is the first agency ever to get a program like this through the federal government. He said it includes a training element.

Member DuBois asked how people learn about the program. Mr. Failing responded that they use local groups to provide outreach and to bring residents to union halls. Second Vice President Infanzon recommended that this information be extended to the general public.

Member Barrios asked what funds have been transferred to other projects. Member DuBois responded that the MTA Board Members all work to keep their Measure R funds in their respective allocations.

Member Wilson asked if these funds are used to leverage other funds. Mr. Yale responded that they are and that they have put together a long range plan as the key to keeping our state and federal fund commitments.

Regarding bonding, Member Wilson asked if they lose present value as time goes out. Mr. Yale responded that they do, but MTA's plan doesn't see anything going out beyond 30-35 years.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing said the original initiative included a list of projects. He asked how we would go back and get dollars for our projects here if there is no sunset clause. Mr. Yale said the Long Range Transportation Plan would be the mechanism. Without an extension of Measure R, he said, there would not be anything to fight over.

Member Harris said one issue that the Board has to deal with is that transit dollars tend to flow to the west side. Mr. Yale said that an equity deal that is built into Measure R in that highway money flows to areas like Gateway Cities.

Member Nordbak asked what the request is of the COG Board. He asked if it is it to approve an extension of 30 or 60 years or one with no sunset. He said he would not put his stamp on a particular period but would let the voters decide.

President Dunton said that this item is strictly an educational topic that MTA is bringing to the Board.

Member Wilson said he felt it was a policy issue.

Member DuBois said that the Transportation Committee had approved a motion that a subdivision (f) be added to Assemblyman Feuer’s bill (AB 1446) to include our projects by name. It was moved by Member Nordbak, seconded by Member Wilson, to approve
the recommendation of the Transportation Committee. The motion was approved unanimously, with members Harris and Sziebl abstaining.

Member Nordbak said that we don't have the information by which to place a timeline on the extension.

Member Harris said that voters’ perception towards a sales tax extension may change when they consider the other tax measures that would be on the November ballot.

Mr. Yale said the urgency for an election in November is that it would enable MTA to put a financial plan together to go after federal New Starts dollars.

It was moved by President Dunton, seconded by Member Nordbak, to support MTA’s plan to put the Measure R extension on the November ballot. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Kristen Monaco, Co-Director of the Department of Economics, Cal State University Long Beach, gave a presentation updating the Board on the development of the Gateway Cities subregional database. She said the project’s benefit is that cities will have access to accurate and up to date demographic information to assist them in preparation of grant applications and enhancing their chances of securing funding. She described how individual city websites will appear. She said maps with block data will be on the websites. She said historical data on employment dating to 1980 would also be available.

Barbara Levine, Senior Regional Manager for the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, reported that LAEDC’s new policy handbook is available for distribution and may be accessed on LAEDC’s website. She said the policy goals are to advance manufacturing.

Ms. Levine reported that the entertainment industry is the largest economic sector in the county, and that other growth industries are health services, education, information services, and leisure and hospitality. She referred to LAEDC’s Film Friendliness initiative, which encourages best practices. She said she would like the Gateway Cities COG and the individual cities to endorse these initiatives.

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

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said the draft EIR/EIS would be released at the end of the month or at the beginning of July. He said public hearing on the draft EIR/EIS would be held on August 7, 8, and 9 in Long Beach, Commerce, and Paramount. Immediate Past President Hurtado reported that the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee had voted to recommend a 120 day review period to Caltrans because 60 days may not be enough. The decision, however, would be up to Caltrans.
Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the Corridor Cities Committee would meet in July and August because decisions need to be made on priority projects due to the traffic model results. He said the Transportation Strategic Plan would be developed.

It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the two freeway corridor reports.

The Transportation Deputy reported that the Transportation Committee had voted to recommend that Metro Gateway Cities Service Council members Wally Shidler, Richard Burnett, and Jo Ann Eros-Delgado be nominated for reappointment. It was moved by Member Kelley, seconded by Member Mowles, to approve the recommendation of the Transportation Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented a report from the Committee on Homelessness. He said the Committee would be meeting on Monday to receive the recommendation by the review panel which evaluated the proposals from agencies wishing to serve as the Implementation Agency for the Homeless Action Plan. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

There was no report on the California High Speed Rail project.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She said the I-5 Rosecrans and Imperial segments are out to bid. She said several ongoing freeway closures were planned, including the Alondra Blvd. Bridge, which will be closed by the end of the year. She said the I-5/I-605 and I-5/I-710 planning efforts are picking up. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

There was no report from SCAG.

The Transportation Deputy presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. She said the alternatives analysis process was coming towards the end. She said public meetings would be held in June, after which the report will go to MTA for refinement. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

Debra Ashby presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. She said registration was now open for the lawn mower exchange program, and that there would be an event in Long Beach on June 23. She said nominations were now open for the 24th annual Clean Air Awards. She reported on the Carl Moyer program for replacement of heavy duty trucks. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

There was no report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector.
There was no report from the Conservation Corps of Long Beach.

There was no report from the Coalition for America’s Gateways and Trade Corridors.

There were no matters from the President.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:57 p.m.