

**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 6, 2018**

1st Vice President Dutra called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM.

PRESENT: First Vice President Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Cinde MacGugan Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Oralia Rebollo, City of Commerce
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy
Member Sean Ashton, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member John Lewis, City of La Mirada
Member Joaquin Lanuza, City of Maywood
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member Jennifer Perez, City of Norwalk
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 Antonio Chapa, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member Herlinda Chico, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn

ABSENT: President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
Immediate Past President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Member Naresh Solanki, City of Cerritos
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach
Member Sal Alatorre, City of Lynwood
Member Diane J. Martinez, City of Paramount
Member Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

ALSO PRESENT: Whittier City Manager Jeff Collier; Pico Rivera Acting City Manager James Enriquez; South Gate City Council Member Al Rios; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Susana Graether, Principal Analyst, LA County CEO's Office; Former Board Member Gene Daniels, City Of Paramount; Mark Stowell, Public Works Director, City of La Mirada; Sharon Weissman, Board Deputy, Office of Mayor Robert Garcia; Lance Grindle, Principal Engineer, LA County Public Works; Jerard Wright, Policy Manager, BizFed; Andres Molina, Deputy Manager Government Relations, WSP; Nina Turner, Local/Regional Government Relations, Port of Long Beach; Steve Forster, Sr. Vice President, Infrastructure Engineers; Chau Vu, Public Works Director, City of Bell Gardens; Pradeep Elayath, Administrative Manager, City of Artesia; Philbert Wong, Senior Manager, Metro; Ayda Safaei, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Mayor Judy Mitchell, City of Rolling Hills Estates & AQMD/CARB Representative; Daniel Wall, Director, City of Vernon; Gladis Deras, Senior Engineer, City of South Gate; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco-Rapid Transit; GCCOG Executive Director Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Transportation Analyst Karen Heit; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Kekoa Anderson; GCCOG Consultant Engineer/I-5 JPA Executive Director Yvette Kirrin.

Roll call was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Maria Davila.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

The COG's Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai announced that we had not reached a quorum for either of the Board of Directors nor the Executive Committee. The Members in attendance had the option of moving forward with the presentations until a quorum was reached. The Members agreed to move forward.

1st Vice President Fernando Dutra called forward former Board Member Gene Daniels; he announced that Gene was retiring from public service and the COG was recognizing him for his many years of service. 1st Vice President Dutra, Board Member Wilson, and Executive Director Pfeffer commented that it was a pleasure to work with Gene through the many years of service and how appreciative they were for the work Gene had done on behalf of the COG and the region.

1st Vice President Dutra announced that we now had a quorum of the Board of Directors and the meeting was officially called to order.

The Consent Calendar was approved unanimously.

Susana Villacres Graether, Principal Analyst of the LA County CEO's Office gave a presentation on the 2020 Census. Ms. Graether provided an overview of the Countywide outreach efforts planned for the 2020 Census. The County plans to work collaboratively

with the U.S. Census Bureau, a diverse list of Los Angeles stakeholders, and other government agencies to conduct and support outreach and education efforts.

Ms. Graether continued to report the County had established the Complete Count Committees (CCC's) in order to reach all populations in Los Angeles including those hard to survey populations. The CCC's will assist with coordinating with the 88 cities in the County, avoid duplication and assist with addressing potential gaps in outreach. The County has also created 2020 Census mapping tools to identify areas that are hard-to-count and provide demographic information.

Lastly, Ms. Graether provided a list of suggested ways that we could help. The list includes developing strategies for conducting education and outreach to residents and organizations, utilize the COG and COG resources to coordinate municipal Census outreach planning through working groups or existing committees, educate city employees and elected officials, utilize communication tools such as city websites, social media, and email blasts. The list included encouraging staff and volunteers to participate in the Census Goodwill Ambassadors Program which trains volunteers to assist with Census education and outreach.

Philbert Wong, Project Manager for Metro gave a presentation on the I-105 ExpressLanes Project. Mr. Wong provided a description indicating that the I-105 ExpressLanes Project is studying the possible implementation of ExpressLanes on the I-105 between the I-405 and I-605, a distance of 15.7 miles. The Project will also study the I-105 west of the I-405 to Sepulveda Boulevard and east of the I-605 to Studebaker Road to identify potential signage locations and access points in the ExpressLanes. Mr. Wong indicated the project's purpose is to enhance traffic flow, improve trip reliability, travel time and sustain and manage mobility within the corridor.

Mr. Wong reported there were 4 study alternatives. These include, existing conditions (no build), convert high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to one express lane, convert HOV lane to one ExpressLane and add a second ExpressLane, or convert HOV lane to one ExpressLane with non-standard lane widths, or add a second ExpressLane with standard lane widths.

Mr. Wong summarized the dates and various comments received during the public outreach meetings which were held spring of 2018. The next key milestone is the initiation of the environmental process which is scheduled for summer/fall 2018 and 2019.

During the Q & A segment of this presentation several members expressed their dissatisfaction with the outreach.

Member Ashton indicated the number of community meetings were not enough to reach the community's various schedules.

Member Perez requested that Metro talk to the cities to get assistance with refining the dissemination of information.

1st Vice President Dutra encouraged Metro staff to present the information to the cities.

Judy Mitchell, Mayor Pro Tem of City of Rolling Hills Estates and South Coast AQMD and California Air Resources Board Member and Representative of the Gateway Cities. Ms. Mitchell indicated she represents 51 cities of LA County and has been representing our cities on AQMD since 2010 and on CARB since 2013. Ms. Mitchell provided an overview of the activities within the AQMD and CARB. She highlighted the Carl Moyer Program by CARB which provides grant funding to reduce emissions from key pollutants. Eligible projects include; cleaner on-road trucks, school and transit buses, off-road equipment, marine vessels, locomotives, agricultural equipment, light duty vehicle scrap, and lawn mowers. Ms. Mitchell indicated that new funds are now available to reduce emissions in the communities most affected by air pollution.

Ms. Mitchell discussed the South Coast AQMD and its broad range of programs for businesses, the community, and local government that help to achieve cleaner air quality for all. Many of these programs offer financial incentives for implementing new clean air technologies. She also mentioned AQMD's decision to do more public outreach to widely spread the many services provided by the organization.

Ms. Mitchell reported on the passing of AB 617 last year, which was originated by Assembly Member Cristina Garcia. The bill encourages going into communities to examine what toxins are in our local communities and prioritize emission reductions programs in the communities with the highest exposure to toxins.

It was moved by Member Zamora and seconded by Member Ashton to receive and file reports A, B and C. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jeff Collier, Chair of the City Managers Steering Committee discussed the Tax Fairness, Transparency and Accountability Action of 2018. Mr. Collier encouraged the cities to oppose this initiative because the initiative would eliminate local authority to impose a tax for general purposes by majority vote and instead require all local proposed tax increase be approved by a two-thirds vote. Mr. Collier indicated the League of California Cities is requesting that cities oppose the initiative and is asking cities to adopt resolutions demonstrating how harmful this measure would be for their communities.

It was moved by Member Sharif and, seconded by Member Lanuza, to oppose the Tax Fairness, Transparency and Accountability Act of 2018 initiative. The motion was approved unanimously.

1st Vice President Dutra asked if the two candidates for the Metro Gateway Cities Service Council vacancy were present. One of the two candidates were present, South Gate Council Member Al Rios. Mr. Rios was introduced and expressed his interest in serving on the Council. He said he wanted to contribute to the improvement of our public transportation system for low income families, students and individuals in our communities who rely on public transportation daily.

It was moved by Member Saleh, seconded by Member Davila, to approve the nomination of South Gate Councilmember Al Rios to the Metro Gateway Cities Service Council. The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Director Pfeffer reported on the upcoming Gateway Cities COG Conference & Retreat. She thanked the members of the planning committee for the time contributed to the event with special thanks to Member Cassidy who is hosting the event in Avalon. The Director Pfeffer also thanked everyone who registered for the event and encouraged anyone who had not yet registered to contact COG staff. She provided details on the retreat program and asked for volunteers to moderate the sessions. Members Cassidy, Davila, Hernandez, and Wilson volunteered to assist.

Sharon Weissman, Metro Board Deputy for Metro Director Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, reported the Metro Board policy had been allowing clean-fueled vehicles to use express lanes for free but will begin charging for these vehicles to use the express lanes. Ms. Weissman also reported on the alignments approved by the Metro Board for further study relating to the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor Project. She reported that the Metro Board approved alignments E and G as part of a refined set of alternatives. Options A, B, C, D, F and H were eliminated from the list for further analysis. Alignment E was favored by the Eco-Rapid Transit JPA Board. The Metro Board also approved extending rail services to the homeless with the intent of trying to encourage them to use other services available to them. Ms. Weissman also announced Metro's expansion of the Universal College Pass which offers a reduced fare transit pass with unlimited rides to students. This pass is now being offered to all colleges, universities, and high school students. These TAP cards can be purchased at 2000 locations in LA County.

1st Vice President Dutra thanked Mayor Garcia and Deputy Weissman for their work on the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor Project. He also thanked the COG Board, Supervisor Hahn and all those Metro Board Members who spoke out and testified to support the northern alignment alternatives selected.

It was moved by Member Ashton, seconded by Member Lima to receive and file all preceding reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kekoa Anderson, COG Transportation Engineer, reported on the RMC's Urban Greening Project. He indicated that the RMC's Prop 1 - Round two was in the process and that approximately \$14 million was going to the COG cities from Round one for Urban Greening. He indicated that Prop 68 could bring approximately \$70 million to the RMC's programs and that there is also approximately \$48 million in active grant funds for the Gateway Cities' portion of the LA River for revitalization and for I-710 early action projects. Lastly, Mr. Anderson reported that the COG and GWMA continue to work together to identify grants and the connection to freeway programs.

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

Mr. Anderson, reported on the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that there was no meeting of the Project Committee in May. He reported COG that staff and the I-710 TAC are looking at potential early action projects, how they will be packaged, and how they can tie into the Livability Initiative and early action.

Mr., Anderson, continued to report on the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Project. He reported the technical studies for the environmental document for the I-605 are being circulated. He also reported that the Committee is looking at aesthetics along the Corridor. The idea is to set up common architectural elements that include unique components representative of each city.

1st Vice President Dutra encouraged involvement in the 91/605/405 project.

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

Executive Director Pfeffer provided a report on Cap and Trade. She reported that the COG region has not received its fair share of Cap and Trade funding. She is finalizing a letter to CARB presenting the results of an analysis conducted by the COG of cap-and-trade funds that have reached the Gateway Cities subregion. The letter summarizes the findings of the analysis to indicate instead of receiving an approximate share of a least 10 percent of Cap & Trade funding for the disadvantaged communities within the region, the Gateway Cities region had collectively received or benefited from approximately 6 percent of the statewide cap-and-trade funding implemented as of the end of 2016. The Director Pfeffer said the letter will be finalized and sent out within the next week.

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

Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director of the I-5 Corridor JPA, provided an update on the I-5 Project. She reported that the Valley Boulevard bridge is under construction and is approximately 25% complete. Both the Alondra and Carmenita bridges are complete and Rosecrans is approximately 97% complete. Imperial/Norwalk/Pioneer are 50% complete. She reported the I-605/I-5 EIR/EIS will be released in 2021. Ms. Kirrin also reported the cities of Santa Fe Springs, Downey, and Commerce would like to expand the HOV lane that runs through their cities and Metro has allocated \$3.8 million to the I-5 JPA for this study. (*I think that was what happened*). Ms. Kirrin reported the I-5 JPA is looking for additional funding sources.

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

Michael Kodama, Executive Director of Eco-Rapid Transit reported that they are working to fund the Eco-Rapid Transit (West Santa Ana Branch) transit line with public and private partnerships. He indicated Eco-Rapid with Metro staff are coordinating community meetings that will take place over the next several months. He also reported that the Eco-Rapid Transit will sponsor a Transportation Summit in October 2018. Mr. Kodama

reported their Board meetings have moved to the city of Bellflower for the next several months.

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

Julia Brown, Metro Community Relations Manager, reported the next meeting of the Metro Gateway Cities Service Council will be held on June 14 in Huntington Park. Ms. Brown indicated that at this meeting the committee will elect a Chair and Vice Chair. She also reported that flyers on the I-710 Livability Initiative community meeting tomorrow have been circulated. Lastly, Ms. Brown reported that Metro will be implementing paid parking at four Green Line stations, including the Lakewood and Norwalk stations.

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

1st Vice President Dutra discussed the matter of rescheduling the July 4th Board Meeting to Wednesday, June 21, June 27, July 2, or July 6 under Matters from the President. 1st Vice President Dutra asked for a show of hands for each date. The Board members present were unable to reach a consensus. He asked staff to poll all Board Members for a date that works for the majority of Members.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM