President Lima called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT:  President Tony Lima, City of Artesia
First Vice President James Johnson, City of Long Beach
Second Vice President Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
Immediate Past President Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member Jack Guerrero, City of Cudahy
Member Luis Marquez, City of Downey
Member Rosa E. Perez, City of Huntington Park
Member Tim Spohn, City of Industry
Member Andrew Sarega, 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 Jack Hadjinian, City of Montebello
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member Owen Newcomer, City of Whittier
Member Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe

ABSENT:    Member Michael Ponce, City of Avalon
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos
Member Aja Brown, City of Compton
Member Reynaldo O. Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Brian Bergman, City of La Habra Heights
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Luigi Vernola, City of Norwalk
Member Luis M. Gonzalez, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Angie Castro, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Ex Officio Member Doug Drummond, Port of Long Beach
ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Lakewood Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell; Pico Rivera Director of Public Works/City Engineer Art Cervantes; South Gate Director of Public Works/City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; Brian Mineghino, Chief of Staff, Long Beach Councilmember Patrick O’Donnell; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Artesia Public Information Officer Andrew Perry; Pico Rivera Associate Engineer Gladis Deras; Julia Juarez, Field Representative, Senator Ricardo Lara; SCAG Public Affairs Officer Matt Horton; SCAQMD Public Information Specialist Leeor Alpern; SCAQMD Atmospheric Measurements Manager Jason Low; David Hershensen, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Rick Stroup, Director of Education, Conservation Corps of Long Beach; Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director/Authority Engineer, I-5 JPA; Rafael Garcia, Republic Industries; Patricia Ochoa, Coalition for Clean Air; Celso Hermogenes, CH2M Hill; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Engineer Jerry Wood; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Assistant to the Transportation Deputy Chelsea Simandle.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Marquez.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

The Executive Director announced that a General Assembly of the COG would be held on December 4th at the Cerritos Performing Arts Center to introduce the Gateway Cities Strategic Transportation Plan. He said the final report on the Gateway Cities Clean Air Action Plan had been sent to all city managers, including a toolkit of strategies cities may use to help improve air quality. He announced that the COG staff had stepped up its relationship with the Orange County Council of Governments and that staff has plans to have more engagement with them.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Perez, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.
Gateway Cities COG Engineer Jerry Wood introduced Jason Low, Atmospheric Measurements Manager for the South Coast Air Quality Management District, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the site selection criteria for air quality monitoring stations in the Gateway Cities area. Mr. Low said that there are 35 permanent, multi-pollution stations located in the SCAQMD monitoring area. He said the Air District has had one NO₂ monitor in the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana region since 2010, and that the EPA requires that a second NO₂ monitor, one CO monitor, and one PM₂.₅ monitor be in place by 2015.

Mr. Low described the siting considerations as including: traffic, roadway design, spacing, meteorology, roadside structure, and terrain. He said, although I-605 has the heaviest traffic, it has many obstacles such as sound walls, vegetation, and other barriers that would affect the readings of a monitoring station. He said the Air District is particularly interested in placing a monitoring station along I-710.

Jerry Wood said that the I-710 EIR/EIS consultant team would be updating the air quality model next year. He recommended that staff then use those results to work with the SCAQMD next year about siting some additional air quality monitoring stations and then return to the Board next year with some recommendations.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Hurtado, to approve the recommendation presented by Mr. Wood and to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood presented a status report on the Gateway Cities Strategic Transportation Plan. He said the hope is that the project will be completed by late spring 2014. He reviewed the wide variety of transportation modes that the Strategic Transportation Plan will evaluate. For example, he said the key to dealing with near roadway pollution is zero emission vehicles.

Mr. Wood referred the Board to the “roll out” event for the Strategic Transportation Plan to be held on December 4th. Member Hurtado encouraged staff to reach out to federal and state elected officials to attend the event.

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

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.
Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He reported that, finally, the traffic model is acceptable so the consultant team can now make the necessary changes to the draft EIR/EIS. He said the sound walls project will move into the design phase in the beginning of next year, and that a Project Study Report is being prepared for one-half of the I-710/I-5 interchange.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He reported that the SR-91/I-605 and I-605/I-5 interchange studies were moving forward. He said MTA will later retain a consultant to look at the SR-60/I-605 interchange. Mr. Wood reported that the first 33 arterial intersection improvement projects are moving forward thanks to funding from MTA. He thanked Member DuBois and Transportation Deputy Karen Heit for achieving the funding for these projects. He said the first steps will be preliminary design and environmental clearance.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She reported that the Freight Advisory Committee had met in San Diego to secure input towards the development of a national freight improvement plan now mandated by Congress. She said more landscaping would be installed along I-710 in the future. Member DuBois said MTA is looking at the Call for Projects to revise the process and has been reaching out to public works officers for ideas.

Member DuBois referred the Board to a draft letter to the MTA which had been approved by the Transportation Committee requesting the waiver of the monthly maintenance fee for transponders that are used for access to the freeway HOV lanes as part of the Congestion Reduction Demonstration Project.

It was moved by Member Dunton, seconded by Member Hurtado, to approve the letter recommended by the Transportation Committee and to authorize that it be sent to the MTA on behalf of the Board. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Deputy Executive Director presented a report from the Committee on Homelessness. He reported that the Committee had met last month and had received a report from PATH Partners on the first year of the program to implement the Homeless Action Plan. He reported that in the nine months from October through June that 20,520 contacts with the homeless had been made, including services to 6,566 individuals, of which 2,480 had received case management. He said 225 homeless individuals had been permanently housed. He reported that the Committee on Homelessness had elected Member Newcomer as its Chair.
Jerry Wood presented a report on the California High Speed Rail project. He said the High Speed Rail Authority had taken comments from cities and had come up with a new plan that reduces the impacts of the project on cities. He said meetings with the cities are continuing.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Daniels, seconded by Member Hurtado, to receive and file reports B through F. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She referred the Board to a handout that included newly updated construction activity and a map of closures on I-5. She reported that the northbound I-5 would be closed on the weekend of November 14th through the 16th. She announced that a community meeting had been scheduled for November 18th in the City of Santa Fe Springs regarding the construction activity on the I-5 section at Florence Avenue which is due to begin in early 2014.

Member Newcomer presented a report from the League of California Cities. He reported that the League would be holding a Leadership and Board meeting over the next two days in Newport Beach.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He announced an Economic Summit to be held on December 5th. He said tomorrow’s Regional Council and policy committee meetings would be the last ones of the year.

It was moved by Member Newcomer, seconded by Member Perez, to receive and file agency reports A through C. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Transportation Deputy presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. She said the Orangeline Transit Oriented Development Guidelines were moving forward and that the Authority is working on transportation planning in specific areas.

Leeor Alpern presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He reported that, in addition to near roadway monitoring, the Air District is concerned with mitigating the impacts. He referred the Board to an announcement on a Technology Forum on Near-Road Mitigation Measures and Technologies to be held on November 21st at the Air District Headquarters.

Mr. Alpern reported that Exide Technologies had been issued an order of abatement from the SCAQMD and that the Board would be holding a hearing in the community on December 14th. He said the Air District had rejected Exide
Technologies’ reduction plan. He said the AQMD Board would be looking at a new rule regarding arsenic emissions from battery facilities at its December 4th meeting.

Mr. Alpern announced the leaf blower exchange program for professional gardeners.

David Hershensen presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said there would be a meeting of all Gateway Cities transit service providers on December 3rd in the City of Downey. He reported that there will be a major overhaul of the 24 year-old Blue Line system over the next two years.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Perez, to receive and file agency reports D through F. The motion was approved unanimously.

Immediate Past President Daniels requested that members of the freeway corridor committees make a point of attending meetings, saying there had been a problem in achieving quorums recently.

President Lima asked the Board to consider whether it is interested in bringing to SCAG the issue of deliveries being made during peak hours.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:32 p.m.