

**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 Boulevard
Paramount, California
March 2, 2016**

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

PRESENT: President Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Second Vice President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
Immediate Past President Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
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 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 Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach
Member Salvador Alatorre, City of Lynwood
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Owen Newcomer, City of Whittier
Member Joseph Martinez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Tracy Egoscue, Port of Long Beach

ABSENT: First Vice President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Member Ivan Altamirano, City of Commerce
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Ricardo Villarreal, City of Maywood
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Whittier City Manager Jeff Collier; Bell Gardens Director of Public Works Chau Vu; Downey Director of Public Works Mohammad Mostahkami; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Pico Rivera Director of Public Works James Enriquez; Vernon Director of Public Works Derek Wieske; Steve Forster, City Services Manager, Cities of Bell Gardens and Montebello; Kimberly Ortega, Field Deputy, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis; Lance Grindle, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Eugene Kim, Deputy Executive Officer, Metro; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco-Rapid Transit; Andres Molina, Government Relations Representative, WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff; David Vela, Lee Andrews Group; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Consultant Engineer and I-5 JPA Executive Director Yvette Kirrin.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Saleh.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

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

Eugene Kim, Deputy Executive Officer, Metro, gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Board on the status of the Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 Technical Refinement. He reminded the Board that two alternative alignments are being studied: one utilizing the SR-60 as its right-of-way, the other being the Washington Blvd. alignment. He explained that three routes are being examined as potential connections from Washington Blvd. to the eastbound extension from East Los Angeles: Arizona Ave/Telegraph Road; Atlantic Blvd., and Garfield Avenue. However, the original plan to have an aerial alignment over Garfield has been abandoned in favor of undergrounding if that route were chosen. He said stakeholder and community outreach meetings would continue in March and that the results of the Washington Blvd. alternatives study would be presented to the Metro Board in the summer of 2016.

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

The Deputy Executive Director reported that the COG had received a letter from Senator Ricardo Lara seeking to clarify that the additional seat for a representative from the Gateway Cities to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board is not restricted to

members of the COG Board. He said Senator Lara had requested that the Board forward the names of additional nominees to the two already submitted given this information. The Deputy Executive Director also said he had received clarification that a resident from the City of Bell Gardens would also be eligible to be nominated to this seat as meeting the requirement to being a resident of a city bordering the Los Angeles River. He also informed the Board that Member Christian Hernandez had indicated his interest in being nominated to the RMC Board.

Member Hurtado said that his fellow South Gate Councilmember Jorge Morales would be a good candidate for the RMC Board.

Member Marquez nominated Member Pedro Aceituno to be submitted as a candidate for the RMC Board.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member DuBois, to forward the names of South Gate Councilmember Jorge Morales, Board Member Christian Hernandez, and Board Member Pedro Aceituno to the Governor as additional nominees to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board. The motion was approved unanimously, with Member Alatorre abstaining.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Uranga, to receive and file the report from the Conservancy Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. She said the Technical Advisory Committee had met last month but did not have a quorum, so no action was taken. She said the Technical Advisory, Community Advisory Committee, and Project Committee would possibly all meet this month.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. She said the Technical Advisory Committee had met last week and that several cities had submitted projects for funding. She said Metro is now evaluating those submittals. She said the RFP for the Environmental Impact Report on the I-605/SR-60 interchange is now out on the street and that an award had been made for the contract on the I-605/SR-91 interchange.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said the MTA Board had approved an expansion of the Green Streets policy. She said an alternative had been selected for the Rosecrans/Marquardt rail grade separation project. She reported that the item for segment three of the Purple Line subway had been approved.

Member DuBois reported that the Transportation Committee had voted to recommend that the Board approve the addition of the I-5 improvement project from I-605 to I-710 to

the list of “shovel ready” regional projects being advanced by MTA as ready for funding opportunities at the state and federal level.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Hurtado, to approve the request that improvement of I-5 from I-605 to I-710 be added to the MTA’s list of “shovel ready” projects. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Newcomer referred the Board to the report from PATH containing the numbers from the 2015 homeless count and the January 2016 outreach report.

Member Daniels referred the Board to the announcement on the March 23rd Cap and Trade Workshop to be held at the COG offices and encouraged Board members to have their staffs attend.

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

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 Joint Powers Authority. She said the I-5 project is now involved with the relocation of utilities. She said the JPA is working with policy makers to develop a funding allocation for the segment north of I-605.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She referred the Board to a worksheet which provided an update on state transportation funding. She said there had been cuts in some projects and that no new projects were funded over the next five years because of reductions in gas tax revenues. She said the Board of Equalization had just approved a reduction by 2.2 cents in the excise tax on gasoline. She said cities need to talk to their legislators about new transportation funding for local streets and roads.

Ms. Guerrero thanked the COG and Member Newcomer for the recently published editorial regarding the COG’s program on homelessness. She said recently introduced legislation threatens local control on this issue.

There was no report from SCAG.

Michael Kodama presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. He said the Legislative Workshop held at the COG in February was a success. He reported that the MTA Board had approved the proposal put up by Member DuBois to award \$18 million for pre-project planning for the Eco-Rapid Transit project.

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

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

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

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Saleh clarified that he had to leave last month's meeting early because of a family emergency.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 6:57 p.m.