

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE GATEWAY CTITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Chair - MTA Director Diane DuBois**

Gateway Cities COG Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723

October 7, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM. Roll call was taken by self-introductions.

COG Members Present: Ali Saleh, COG President – City of Bell, Diane DuBois – MTA Director – City of Lakewood, Gene Daniels – Supervisor Knabe – Cityof Paramount, Bill Pagett City Engineer- City of Paramount, Mike Egan, City Manager – City of Norwalk, KeAndra Dodds, Supervisor Solis, Dana Pynn – Long Beach Transit, Mohammad Mostahkami – City of Downey, Cinde Cassidy – City of Avalon, Arturo Sanchez – City of Long Beach.

COG Members Absent: Al Austin – City of Long Beach, Owen Newcomer – City of Whittier,

Others Present: Angela Driscoll, Maryam Adhami, Lance Gimdle - LA County Public Works, Kekoa Anderson, Yvette Kirrin, Nancy Pfeffer, Karen Heit – Gateway Cities COG staff, Lara Laramendi – Congressmember Hahn, Norm Emerson, Kevin Gillhooley – SCAG, Andres Molina – Parsons Brinckerhoff, Bryan Moller – LA County Bicycle Coalition,

Director DuBois reviewed MTA Board actions from the September Meeting noting that significant milestones were reached for the Highway program; engineering contracts and studies were approved for the I-710/SR-91 and I-605/I-5 projects. These two contracts total over \$23 million for the studies that will lead to final design and construction. Other items of interest were the Mark Ridley-Thomas Motion looking to extend the integration of a college pass program with more community colleges and a Motion by Director Fasana from the San Gabriel Valley to survey the rail system for siting of Automated Public Toilet locations.

Final permissions and approvals were granted for the Affordable Housing program and a revolving fund amount of \$10 million was approved. There is a provision to allocate \$500,000 of the \$10 million to a small business improvement fund, however, this may be outside of the MTA's authority and may be considered competition with lending institutions. Director Najarian and I have requested a legal opinion of this use of transportation funds.

The LRTP/Ballot Measure process has completed the data gathering phase, all of the subregions turned in the requested Mobility Matrix documents. The sum total is over \$250 billion countywide. MTA staff will spend the next 4-5 months trying to sort through projects and create some kind of program out of them.

State legislation, SB-767 (De Leon), authorizing the ballot measure SB-767 has been signed into law.

She then went on to discuss that all subregions submitted a mobility matrix. MTA is going to filter through the projects and try and make a countywide project listing.

Yvette Kirrin, COG Engineering updated the progress on the Strategic Transportation Plan (STP) including the completion of all but two elements, air quality and storm water treatment have been reviewed and approved by the STP working group. She went over the STP schedule and the time that has been put aside for individual city council briefings. The final report and summary will come before the TAC in November as well as a video.

Director DuBois introduced the item for the selection of members for the Sustainability Committee and the STP Oversight Committee. The Transportation Committee needs to appoint four people to finish out the Strategic Transportation Plan (STP) Committee. This is a subcommittee of the Transportation Committee and the members should come from this group. The action required is the appointment of two City Managers and two Elected Officials. Mike Egan and Arturo Sanchez, Gene Daniels and Owen Newcomer were nominated to fill the positions.

The Sustainability Committee also needs a member. This committee also makes recommendations on meeting the goals of the Sustainable Communities Strategy. Nominations were opened for the Sustainability Committee. KeAndra Dodds from Supervisor Solis office volunteered, however she is already a member; GCCOG President Ali Saleh volunteered.

Dave Hershenson, Metro Service Council Manager, discussed the Metro Gold Line Eastern Extension Phase II. SR-60 alignment program is working through the environmental concerns associated with intrusion into the Whittier Narrows wash The Washington Coalition project side is reviewing a new alignment that avoids the Garfield aerial configuration. Both projects as well as the connection to the ESAB are moving forward and making progress,

Director DuBois called on Nancy Pfeffer to discuss the activities of the committee on sustainability which is going to meet next Monday. She discussed inequity of last year's award of Cap and Trade funding and the need to be more active in pursuing the funds. She mentioned the allocation of \$5000 for disadvantaged communities planning. She reviewed the ITS grant that is still in the running.

Yvette Kirrin discussed the I-5 funding swap with federal money lagging behind the need. She mentioned that MTA was approving the funding swap. She also talked about the Urban Greening report for the I-5.

Yvette Kirrin went on to go over the I-710 meeting She went over the CAC and PC meetings that were going to approve at the TA Board (revision of the EIR action) She went on to talk about the MTA applying for a Sustainability Communities Planning Grant to address planning for the Livability Initiative.

Director DuBois discussed the Beyond Traffic 2045 listening session put on by the US Department of Transportation and the City of Long Beach. There were people in

attendance from all over the southwestern US. The session was introduced by the USDOT Maritime administrator Paul Jaenichen and Long Beach Vice-Mayor Lowenthal. There were structured discussion/presentations and break-out sessions where the attached questions were addressed. The entirety of the presentation is attached as well as the on-line survey. She encouraged the Transportation Committee members read through this document and comment as it may have a bearing on the next transportation bill authorization assuming we ever get that far in Congress.

Kekoa Anderson, COG Engineer went over the I-5/I-605 \$20 million design contract that was going to go out to bid. He reviewed the other report for the PSR for the I-710/I-5 project. He went on to talk about the I-605 on the I-405 progress and the TAC activities that are moving forward. He discussed the potential for the SR-91/I-605 Aesthetic plan that would be forthcoming.

Diane DuBois asked Arturo Sanchez, Assistant City Manager for the City of Long Beach about the I-405/I-605 interchange. He indicated that there was a settlement conference and the discussions are getting serious. Long Beach is looking for the right level of mitigation for impacts. Director DuBois mentioned that OCTA was assigning excessive percentages for mitigations to the city of Long Beach.

Director DuBois gave an update on LOSSAN; the Agency was moving forward negotiating a new operations agreement with Amtrak. She discussed the upcoming negotiation for the Rail 2 Rail program with Metrolink and the proposed increase in the subsidy.

Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco-Rapid Transit gave the Eco-Rapid project update. Kodama reported on the completion and adoption of the West Santa Ana Branch technical refinement report. He discussed the upcoming Eco-Rapid transportation summit. Mike Egan reported on working with (or not working with) the California High Speed Rail Authority (HSR) and the conduct of meetings within GCCOG. He discussed the lack of collaboration by HSR when holding meetings in the City of Norwalk. Karen Heit related that MTA is also having difficulties with HSR and there is talk about creating a summit to resolve these issues.

Mohammad Mostahkami discussed the damage to bridge structure caused by the homeless setting fires. He cited working with Caltrans as well as the County on this issue. Yvette Kirrin talked about the closure of bridges on the I-5 to effect repairs.

The meeting is adjourned at 4:55 pm.