

**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

November 5, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: MTA Director Diane DuBois called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm. Roll-call was taken by self-introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane DuBois – MTA Director, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Mohammed Mostahkami – Downey, Dana Pynn – LBT, Bill Pagett – City of Paramount, Rosa E. Perez – Huntington Park, Bruce Barrows – Cerritos, Jorge Rifa – Commerce, Andrew Sarega – La Mirada,

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Port of Long Beach Representative, Tom Modica – City of Long Beach, Brent Tercero – Pico River, Mike Egan – Norwalk,

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers, Yvette Kirrin, Keko Anderson, Karen Heit – COG staff, David Hershenson – MTA – Communications. Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Service Sector, Yvette Kirrin – I-5 JPA, Michael Kodama – Eco-Rapid Transit Executive Director, Norm Emerson – Emerson and Associates, Vin Kumhtl, Andres Molina – Parsons Brinckerhoff, Ariel Naftal – Psomas, Bill Stracker – City of Lynwood, Bryon Moller – La County Bicycle Coalition, Kristine Guerrero – League of Cities, Jeff Fremholz – Parsons Brinckerhoff, Shahvamr Vahdat – HNTB.

Karen Heit, COG Transportation Deputy, gave a report on the MTA Planning and Programming Committee discussion on the Metro Gold Eastern Extension Phase II. She indicated that the staff recommendation was to pursue technical refinements on both alignments – a wise decision. She indicated that Washington Blvd. there were aesthetic issues with Garfield Ave.

Nancy Pfeffer gave a report on the development of Cap and Trade funding requirements and the COG's comments on giving the COG an advantage in developing projects, She outlined that the various state agencies were in the process of developing their guidelines and that these guidelines varied as to their complexity. She outlined the comments on the SGC and the letter being developed by the COG. The comments were submitted by email and the COG president would be signing a letter for that.

Bill Pagett asked about the high quality transit and the ½ mile radius as well as the integrated transit service.

A quorum was reached at 4:38 and the minutes were approved.

Pfeffer discussed the definition of disadvantaged communities and the definition of that included income, linguistic isolation as well as unemployment. She outlined the eligible items that the SGC would allow under Cap and Trade.

Pfeffer continued with the proposed COG Sustainability Committee that was recommended by the City Managers' Steering Committee and outlined the duties of the Sustainability Committee. Tasks included the Board reviewing the projects looking at opportunities, looking at co-benefits of projects that conserved energy as well as reduced GHG and apply for any recommended grants on behalf of COG cities..

The committee would have five elected members including LA County, the Public Works Officers and City Manager's group for a total of 11 people. The Transportation Committee moved to support the staff recommendation, A question was asked about how the membership would be determined. The Board president will determine how the membership is determined.

Richard Powers, Executive Director, went over the new organization chart and the added communities that respond to the changes in COG responsibilities. He outlined the Strategic Transportation Plan (STP) subcommittee and how it would help with the representation for the STP. Dana Pynn asked whether there was transit representation on either the Sustainability of STP committee. Yvette Kirrin indicated that the STP working group had wondered about the transit operators being included and participating in the development of the STP. Pynn recommended including transit. Mr. Powers said the staff would return next time with a specific recommendation.

Director DuBois arrived and gave a report on the Metro Board items that were approved in October. Items approved were the I-710 soundwall applications and the revamping of the Metro Call for Projects to allow for consolidated projects. She reported on the Motion to develop an Active Transportation model for cities to use to develop active transportation.

She mentioned the tendency of some Board offices to want to obligate as much money as possible. She mentioned the TOD planning funding and the Board questioning the allocation of funding. She thanked the representatives from the cities and the companies for the Washington Blvd. alignment and mentioned the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

David Hershenson, MTA Community Relations Manager, mentioned the reassignment of communication managers and the outreach for all of the Gateway Cities projects including the I-710. He reviewed the closures of the Metro Blue Line (MBL) canopies that would close the MBL.

Director DuBois gave the LOSSAN update and the progress being made towards taking over the operation of the Pacific Surfliner. Things are going well.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 Executive Director, gave a report on the I-5 and the visibility of the finished construction. The Pioneer off-ramp is open. The schedule is going well. The I-710 the technical work is ongoing and the disposition of the I-710 Project Committee recommendation is still up in Sacramento with Caltrans. There will be an I-710 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to discuss the expenditure of the \$110 million in first decade expenditures. The TAC will develop performance metrics. The same performance metrics will be determined for the SR-91/I-605/I-405. Bill Pagett asked about the FTIP and the modeling at SCAG.

Heit gave a report about the I-405 issues with the City of Long Beach and the need for continued work on the process.

Heit gave an update on the Eco-Rapid Transit and the continued work being done on the Technical Refinement study. She mentioned that there would be a Motion to look at a possible connection with the Metro Gold Line Eastern Extension Phase II..

Mohammad Mostahkami mentioned that the MTA TAC suggested two extra weeks on the Metro Call for Projects, to get the process past the holidays.

The Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.