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, Tom Modica – City of Long Beach, Ron Bates – Pico Rivera, Mohammad Mostahkami – South Gate, Bill Pagett – Paramount, Bruce Barrows – Cerritos, Tony Lima – Artesia, Ken Farfsing - Signal Hill

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Port of Long Beach Representative – Eric Shen, Cheri Kelley – Norwalk, Bill Pagett, Public Works Officer, Dana Lee – Long Beach Transit, Don Knabe – County Supervisor, Sergio Infanzon – Bell Gardens


The agenda was reordered to correctly reflect the report titles. Director DuBois reviewed the League of California Cities – Southeast sector election to serve on the MTA Board. She noted that the LA County League meeting to ratify her election will be held December 4th and that each city would be getting a notice from Lakewood accordingly.

Director DuBois reviewed the October MTA Board meeting highlighting the MTA approval of the I-710 Early Action Projects. She also reviewed the MTA approval of the Call for Projects and the additional funding to the bicycle category raising the per-project limit from $2.5 to 3 million.

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy reported on the Freeway beautification demonstration project, indicating that a landscape architect had been engaged and there should be concepts available in the beginning of the year. She also discussed the graffiti abatement efforts and the MTA/Caltrans/UP cooperative efforts to keep the graffiti abated.

David Hershenson gave a report on the activities with the Artesia Station and the progress of the implementation of some of the improvements that have been suggested by the COG President. Hershenson also discussed the MTA is also looking at reopening the gate near the casino. He went on to discuss the MTA using its technology
and social media resources to provide information about freeway closures. The last project he reported on was the opening of the I-110 HOT Lane November 10. All travel on the lane requires the purchase of a transponder – even carpools. Hershenson asked if the cities can help get the word out. A discussion ensued about the exemption of alternative fueled vehicles. A question was asked about how things are handled in Orange County.

Director DuBois reported on LOSSAN and that the Mayor of Burbank has been appointed to represent Los Angeles County in place of South Bay COG Executive Director, Jacki Bachrach, who had capably represented LA County for years.

Karen Heit reported on the California Transportation Commission attempted grab of Prop. IB and CMIA funds. She pointed out that the state is considering the segments as discreet projects instead of smaller pieces of a comprehensive corridor. She pointed out the letters that are attached to the report were a help in supporting the I-5, COG and MTA’s efforts to retain all state funding on the I-5 Corridor.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 JPA Director discussed the continued build-up of project segments that are going on all at the same time. She is worried about the amount of traffic that will be caused by having all of the segments under construction. She discussed an information program that will help determine the effects of the freeway construction program on the I-5 project.

Jerry Wood, GCCOG Transportation Engineer discussed the I-710 project Environmental process and the 1000 comment letters that were received. He discussed the schedule and the environmental communities’ development of a potential seventh alternative. He indicated that there might be a need to do additional environmental work because of various changes.

He continued with the 91/605/405 activities. He said there would be a selection of projects early next year. He also talked about Phase II Strategic Transportation Plan and the inputs on the state of transportation in the Gateway Cities.

Mike Kodama, Executive Director, OLDA, said that OLDA is working on the second of the TOD grants. He talked about the potentially troubling SCAG recommendation on the Alternatives Analysis and how it might play out in January. He also announced that the City of Bell Gardens has joined OLDA. A question was asked about OC joining.

Karen Heit went over the failure of Measure J and spoke about the return to the non-accelerated project implementation.

Director DuBois called for any transportation issues. Mohammad Mostahkami talked about the PATH and the COG Homeless initiative and how great the program works for the cities. The PATH group is focused on trying to get people off the street. The greatest number of homeless in LA County is single women with two children.
There was a general discussion about the increased congestion on the I-605 and what is causing it. The freeway is congested all the time.

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 pm.