CALL TO ORDER: MTA Director Diane DuBois called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. Roll-call was taken by self-introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane DuBois – MTA Director, Cheri Kelley – Norwalk, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Dana Lee – Long Beach Transit, Tom Modica – City of Long Beach, Ron Bates – Pico Rivera, Mohammad Moshtakami – South Gate, Bill Pagett – Paramount, Bruce Barrows – Cerritos, Tony Lima – Artesia

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Port of Long Beach Representative – Eric Shen


Director DuBois reviewed the September MTA Board agenda and discussed the Value Capture Report that summarized the various methodologies possible for transit projects. She also reviewed the federal TIFIA loan program Letter of Interest, and explained why none of the highway projects and two transit projects were not included. The transit projects can be amended into the loan request if there is environmental clearance. There was a question about the source of funding for the highway projects.

She went on to report that Assemblyman Mike Feuer agreed to make the COG requested changes to the bill. The bill now provides parity for all of the Measure R projects as listed in the adopted 2008 Expenditure Plan. The last item of interest was the MTA advertising contract that has not been acted upon due to conflicts and an inability to reach a decision.

Director DuBois pointed out the Measure J Information piece and described her role in getting MTA approval of the 30-year maximum extension instead of a long term bill.

Steve Lefever, South Gate – Community Development Director, reviewed the Early Action Projects developed through the GCCOG Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). He reviewed the six strategies and discussed how they would be rolled out. A question was asked about the consistency of these projects and the SCS sustainability issues. The suggested projects work well within the sustainability goals. Another
question was asked about the requirement for clean construction equipment and the impact on small businesses and contractors.

Karen Heit gave an overview of the I-710 Maintenance Demonstration Project and the current project status. She discussed the graffiti abatement process and that there was some movement with the railroads to permanently secure the rail bridges from graffiti. She also outlined the potential for new landscaping and discussed the plans for MTA to assume ownership of the Caltrans park n’ride lots.

Director DuBois reviewed the status of LOSSAN and the Amtrak Pacific Surfliner and the passage and signing into law of SB 1225. The Bill has been signed by the Governor and the LOSSAN JPA will move forward. She also revealed that the MTA will be placing in a bid to run the Surfliner service as an operating entity.

Jerry Wood, COG Engineer, discussed the I-405 Orange County projected and the collaborative analysis being done by both OC and MTA. He also discussed the high level meeting that occurred between OCTA and MTA and the agreements that have been put together. There was a discussion about the increased traffic through the I-605/I-405 interchange. There was a discussion of the progress and assurances made by OC.

David Hershenson, MTA Communications, distributed Measure J informational materials. He also mentioned that he would be distributing OC and Caltrans District 12 information to GCCOG cities regarding road closures and lane work.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 JPA Executive Director, thanked MTA for the I-5 construction announcements on the radio. She also relayed that the increased traffic on the I-605 may be due to some of the I-5 work. She talked about the mitigations working for the I-5 projects currently under construction and how there needs to be more coordination. She discussed the continuing efforts with the I-5 project; I-605 to the I-710.

Jerry Wood gave a report on I-710 and that all of the comments that came in on the last day of the extended comment period. He discussed some of the areas of comment and what was due next. He said that there may be an additional environmental document and if there is, there will be an additional opportunity for public input (not the normal Caltrans process). He talked about the status of the early action projects and the sound walls which are proceeding through the design phase. Mr. Powers mentioned that the COG needed to thank Congressmember Sanchez’ inquiry into the EPA process that resulted in a “positive/negative” rating.

Jerry Wood went on to report on the SR-91/I-605/I-405 project and thanked the Steering Committee for approving a slate of projects to move forward to the Project Study Report (PSR) phase. The process will include an examination into the impacts outside of the COG boundaries. He discussed the candidate project areas and the identified deficiencies in each project area. A request was made to ask what was
occurring with the slowing down on the I-605. It was mentioned that a potential source of slowing may be the sound wall construction and the construction activity on the I-5.

Jerry Wood went on to discuss the Gateway Cities Strategic Transportation Plan and how it will provide for a comprehensive view of the transportation activities in Gateway Cities.

Mike Kodama, OLDA Executive Director, talked about the activities going on with the I-5 North (Burbank/Glendale) and the freeway construction activities. He went on to discuss the issues with the change of the Steering Committee’s recommendation. Director DuBois discussed her dismay at the change. There was some discussion about what SCAG is going to do when and how the subject will handled. There was discussion about how SCAG staff could make a change that was inconsistent with the general recommendation of the Steering Committee. A recommendation was made to question the SCAG Executive Director about the SCAG staff flip of recommendation.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.