

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Cerritos Senior Center
12340 South Street
Cerritos, California
August 4, 2004**

Vice President Nordbak called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Vice President Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Board Member Larry Nelson, City of Artesia
Board Member John Pratt, City of Bellflower
Board Member Daniel Crespo, City of Bell Gardens
Board Member Bob Hughlett, City of Cerritos
Board Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Board Member Jesus Cervantes, City of Commerce
Board Member Keith McCarthy, City of Downey
Board Member Betty Schultz, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Board Member Juan Noguez, City of Huntington Park
Board Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Board Member Susan Tripp, City of La Mirada
Board Member Wayne Piercy, City of Lakewood
Board Member Frank Colonna, City of Long Beach
Board Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Board Member Fernando Pedroza, City of Lynwood
Board Member Samuel Pena, City of Maywood
Board Member Edward Vasquez, City of Montebello
Board Member Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Board Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Board Member Beatrice Proo, City of Pico Rivera
Board Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs

ABSENT: President Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Board Member Ralph Morrow, City of Avalon
Board Member George Cole, City of Bell
Board Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Board Member Hector De La Torre, City of South Gate
Board Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Board Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

ALSO PRESENT: Cerritos City Manager Art Gallucci; Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing; Lakewood Director of Community Development Chuck Ebner; Pico Rivera Administrative Assistant Raphael Guillen; Long Beach Legislative Affairs Coordinator Carl Kemp; Jeannine Critie, Office of Long Beach Councilmember Frank Colonna; Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe; Luis Marquez,

Field Representative, Office of Assemblyman Alan Lowenthal; Raymond Maekawa, LACMTA Director of Planning, Southeast Area; Alex Clifford, General Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; David Hershensen, Community Relations Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; Connie Turner, Region Manager, Southern California Edison Company; Felix Oduyemi, Senior Project Manager, Southern California Edison Company; Frank Osgood, Planner; GCCOG Legal Counsel Robert Messinger; GCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Director of Program Development Deborah Chankin; GCCOG Director of Transportation Jerry Wood; GCCOG Transportation Advisor Don Camph.

Vice President Nordbak provided Words of Wisdom.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Member Tripp.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

Member Proo asked for clarification regarding the proposed funding for the I-710/ I-5 intersection "mini-study". The Executive Director responded that the MTA was proposing to fund 50% of the study, with the remaining 50% to come from the I-5 Joint Powers Authority.

It was moved by Member Colonna, seconded by Member Piercy, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Lowenthal introduced Alex Clifford, General Manager of the MTA's Gateway Cities Service Sector. Mr. Clifford made a presentation summarizing the proposed changes to certain bus lines in the Gateway Cities service sector. It was the consensus of the Board of Directors to receive and file the report.

Connie Turner, Regional Manager of Southern California Edison introduced Edison Senior Project Manager Felix Oduyemi, who made a presentation summarizing the major points of pending legislation, AB 2006, the Reliable Electric Service Act of 2004. It was the consensus of the Board of Directors to receive and file the report.

The Executive Director presented a report regarding a proposed Memorandum of Understanding for a needs assessment of the State Route 91 and Interstate 605 freeways. He reported that the city managers of the cities along the corridors of these two freeways had recently met and asked that the COG prepare a proposal to the cities outlining how they may undertake an effort to examine the needs of the freeway corridors. The Executive Director stressed that what was proposed was a "needs assessment" rather than a "major corridor study".

The Executive Director referred the Board to the MOU drafted by the COG General Counsel, saying that it would be appropriate for the Board to approve the draft and authorize its distribution to the interested cities.

Members Colonna and Daniels cautioned that the cities should learn from the I-710 experience and implement a “bottoms-up” approach to public outreach. Member Lowenthal expressed concern that this effort not compete with other current projects. Member McCarthy suggested that the two ports be contacted regarding possibly contributing to the funding of this study. Member Stefenhagen stated that Norwalk has been pursuing improvement on I-5 for 15 years and that it remained Norwalk’s first priority. Member Pena reiterated the point about a “bottoms-up” approach to outreach. He recommended that the MOU include tier one and tier two community advisory committees. Member Proo said that the MTA was on record that I-5 is the next priority project.

It was moved by Member Hughlett, seconded by Member Nelson, to approve the draft Memorandum of Understanding and to circulate it to corridor cities for their approval. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Colonna referred the Board to his report on the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy included in the agenda packet. It was moved by Member Colonna, seconded by Member Lowenthal, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director summarized the ongoing progress of the Tier 1 and Tier 2 I-710 Community Advisory Committees. He said that the August 12th meeting will be the eleventh meeting of the Tier 2 Committee. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Lowenthal, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Proo presented the report from the Transportation Committee. She said that the Committee had heard the report from General Manager Alex Clifford regarding the proposed Gateway Cities service sector changes. She said that the City of Santa Fe Springs had taken the lead in drafting the COG’s comments of the draft EIR/EIS for the California High Speed Rail Authority project. She said that the Orange Line Joint Powers Authority had also submitted comments, which had different emphases but were in accord with the COG’s comments.

Member Proo introduced Luis Marquez of Assemblyman Alan Lowenthal’s office, who gave an update on the status of three bills authored by Assemblyman Lowenthal relating to California port activity and growth. He said that AB 2041 and AB 2042 were put into the suspense file by the Senate Appropriations Committee, but that they hoped that they would be released from suspense the next week. He said that AB 2043 was to be heard on the Senate floor the next day.

It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Pratt, to receive and file the report from the Transportation Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Hughlett, to receive and file the items from the Southern California Association of Governments. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Pratt, seconded by Member Nelson, to receive and file the SCAG Policy Committee agendas for August 5, 2004. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

The Executive Director provided an update on the status of the required approvals and match payments from cities involved in Phase I of the Truck Impacted Intersections project. He said that the COG was fast approaching a September 1 deadline by which time cities will have needed to approve their Cooperative Agreement and pay the required 10% match in order to be included in the bid package that is expected to go before the Board of Supervisors in mid-September.

It was moved by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Piercy, to direct staff to prepare a letter to be sent to the mayors of all participating cities that have not yet completed their required actions reminding them that they needed to complete their requirements by September 1 or have their projects moved to Phase II. The motion was approved unanimously. Member Nelson asked that a copy of the letters be sent to the respective city managers and that a status report be agendaized for the next Board meeting.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board of Directors to adjourn. The meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.