

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
16401 Paramount Boulevard
Paramount, California
March 1, 2006**

There not being a quorum of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee present, President Nordbak, at 6:20 p.m., asked that the Committee of the Whole hear the items not requiring an action until such time as a quorum was present.

PRESENT: President Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Immediate Past President Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member John Pratt, City of Bellflower
Member Robert Fierro, City of Commerce
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Anne Bayer, City of Downey
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount

ABSENT: Second Vice President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member Ralph Morrow, City of Avalon
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member John Crawley, City of Cerritos
Member Leonard Chaidez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Bob Chotiner, City of La Mirada
Member Frank Colonna, City of Long Beach
Member Fernando Pedroza, City of Lynwood
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Jeff Siccama, City of Montebello
Member David Armenta, City of Pico Rivera
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing; Lakewood Director of Community Development Charles Ebner; South Gate Assistant to the City Manager Binti Harvey; Bell Special Projects Manager Raul Romero; Connie Sziebl, Field Representative for Supervisor Don Knabe; Luis Marquez, Field Deputy for Senator Alan Lowenthal; Jerry Wood, Executive Director, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; Ernest Morales, Director, Gateway Cities Area Team, Metro; Alex Clifford, General Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Gateway Cities Metro Service Sector; Darin Chidsey, Member Relations Officer, SCAG; Kristine Guerrero, Gateway Cities Regional Representative, League of California Cities; Patrician Price, Public Affairs Representative, South Coast AQMD; Nadene Bristow, Natural Marketing; Jon Leonard, TIAX, LLC; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Program Development Director Deborah Chankin; Karen Heit, GCCOG Transportation Deputy.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Gurule led the pledge of allegiance.

Jon Leonard, TIAX, LLC, presented an update on the Gateway Cities Clean Air Program. Mr. Leonard explained that TIAX, under contract to the COG, managed the day to day operations of the program. Mr. Leonard presented an overview of the different elements of the Clean Air Program, including the Port of Los Angeles and MSRC funded Fleet Modernization effort, and the Port of Long Beach program. He explained that over 373 older model diesel trucks had been replaced to date under the program and highlighted the air quality benefits that have resulted. He reported that the Clean Air Program Steering Committee had recently approved a change to the formula which determines grant awards under the Port of Los Angeles program element which takes into consideration reduction in particulate matter (PM). As a result, grant awards will be larger, which will attract more applicants.

Member Putnam arrived at the meeting at 6:40 p.m. President Nordbak announced that a quorum of the Executive Committee was now present. President Nordbak convened the business portion of the meeting.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

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

Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities, requested that the COG support a proposal to "fix" Proposition 42, a measure approved by California voters in 2002.

Proposition 42 dedicated the existing sales tax on gasoline purchases to fund transportation projects. She said that Proposition 42 contained a “loophole” which allows the State to borrow money from this transportation revenue for any purpose without payback protection. She said that almost \$2.5 billion of this transportation fund had diverted to the general fund, forcing local governments to severely curtail planned street repairs and congestion relief. Ms. Guerrero said that the League is working with a coalition of business, labor, local government, and community leaders to qualify a constitutional amendment for the November 2006 ballot which would prevent the Governor and the Legislature from suspending Proposition 42 funds, beginning with the 2007-08 fiscal year.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Immediate Past President Wilson, to support the efforts of the League of California Cities regarding Proposition 42. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Crawley arrived at the meeting at 6:50 p.m. President Nordbak announced that a quorum of the Board of Directors was now present.

The Program Development Director presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. She said that Conservancy staff recently toured a proposed open space development site in La Habra Heights with the mayor of that city. Immediate Past President Wilson said that cities can set up a field review of a proposed project by contacting the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy staff or the COG Program Development Director. It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Gurule, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood, Executive Director of the I-5 Joint Powers Authority, presented a status report on the I-5 project. He said that bids were opened in early February for the Orange County section of the project and that construction should begin in May at Beach Boulevard. He said the Carmenita Bridge should be under construction by the time the Orange County segment is completed. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Dobson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented a report from the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee. He said that the I-710 project is moving forward with the next governance step for the environmental phase. He said that once the “mini-study” is approved by the Commerce City Council and East Los Angeles Community Advisory Committee, it will be presented to the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee and Oversight Policy Committee for action. He said that those would be the last meetings under the original phase of the project before transitioning to the environmental phase, which should take about three years. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Bayer, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nordbak reported on a recent trip to Sacramento in which he and other COG representatives had met with Assemblymembers Bermudez and Oropeza, Senators

Lowenthal and Ackerman, and Caltrans Director Will Kempton regarding the COG's transportation projects. He said that Director Kempton had committed Caltrans to funding the COG's required match on its Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) grants. He said that they were told that the Gateway Cities COG was the only one in the state with three major transportation projects going. It was moved by Immediate Past President Wilson, seconded by Member Lowenthal, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Lowenthal presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said that the Committee had discussed the various freeway projects, the issue of maintaining MTA funding for the municipal operators, and the MTA Bicycle Master Plan and Strategic Document. It was moved by Immediate Past President Wilson, seconded by Member Hurtado, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Daniels presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. He said that the project consultant, ARCADIS, was busy running models to demonstrate whether the Orangeline would be financially self-supporting. He said that more cities were expected to join the Authority soon. It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Hurtado, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Lowenthal, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the SCAG Regional Council and policy committee agendas. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nordbak announced that the Board would now conduct an election to fill the vacancy in the office of First Vice President, which resulted from the City of Maywood's replacement of Councilmember Samuel Pena as its representative on the COG Board of Directors. Member DuBois asked if Second Vice President Nelson was interested in that position. President Nordbak responded that he was. Member Daniels nominated Second Vice President Nelson for First Vice President. There were no other nominations. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member DuBois, to close nominations and elect Second Vice President Nelson as First Vice President. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nordbak announced that there was now a vacancy in the office of Second Vice President. Member Lowenthal nominated Member Guerrero for Second Vice President. There were no other nominations. It was moved by Member Lowenthal, seconded by Immediate Past President Wilson, to close nominations and elect Member Guerrero as Second Vice President. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that Member Lowenthal had been appointed by Los Angeles Mayor and MTA Board Chairman Antonio Villaraigosa as the MTA representative to the South Coast AQMD Mobile Source Reduction Committee (MSRC). He said that it is the first time that the Gateway Cities were represented on that important committee.

The Executive Director announced the appointment of the three representatives from the Gateway Cities Council of Governments to the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The three representatives are: Desi Alvarez, City of Downey; James B. Glancy, City of Lakewood; and Steve Myrter, City of Paramount. In addition, the City of Long Beach has its own seat on the Steering Committee.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing said that Proposition 50 requires that there be a regional water plan for cities within that region to apply for park grants under Proposition 50. He said that the IRWMP process is an important process to follow and will take about one year to complete. Immediate Past President Wilson asked what the relationship between this committee and the larger County group would be. Mr. Farfsing responded that the larger group will rank competing grant applications within the County.

There were no matters from staff.

Adjournment: The meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned by consensus at 7:10 p.m.