

**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
May 3, 2006**

President Nordbak called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 6:06 p.m.

PRESENT: President Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
First Vice President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Second Vice President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Immediate Past President Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member John Pratt, City of Bellflower
Member Nancy Ramos, City of Commerce
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Anne Bayer, City of Downey
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Jeff Siccama, City of Montebello
Member Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Ron Beilke, City of Pico Rivera
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate

ABSENT: Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Ralph Morrow, City of Avalon
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member Paul Bowlen, 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 William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

ALSO PRESENT: Bellflower Councilmember Dorothy King; Maywood Councilmember Samuel Pena; Whittier Councilmember Owen Newcomer; Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing; Lakewood Director of Community Development Charles Ebner; South Gate Assistant to the City Manager Binti Harvey; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad

Mostahkami; Bell Special Projects Manager Raul Romero; Connie Sziebl, Field Representative for Supervisor Don Knabe; Jerry Wood, Executive Director, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; Alex Clifford, General Manager, Gateway Cities Metro Service Sector; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Gateway Cities Metro Service Sector; Gateway Cities Metro Service Sector; Darin Chidsey, Member Relations Officer, SCAG; Kristine Guerrero, Gateway Cities Regional Representative, League of California Cities; Luis Cetina, Senior Government Affairs Representative, Metropolitan Water District; Albert Perdon, Executive Director, Orangeline Development Authority; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; Program Development Director Deborah Chankin; Karen Heit, GCCOG Transportation Deputy.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Beilke led the pledge of allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

No person wished to speak during public comments.

It was moved by Member Lowenthal, seconded by First Vice President Nelson, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

Luis Cetina, Senior Government Affairs Representative for the Metropolitan Water District, addressed the Board and requested opposition to AB 2396 (Calderon), which would require MWD board members to be elected by a general election rather than appointed by the member agencies, and AB 2397 (Calderon), which would prohibit MWD from entering into contracts for permanent or temporary services if those services could be performed by MWD employees. It was moved by Member Lowenthal, seconded by Immediate Past President Wilson, to oppose AB 2396 and AB 2397. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Pratt announced that the first meeting of the Housing Committee would be held on May 24, 2006, at noon, at which time the Committee will be hosting a presentation by Senate Transportation and Housing Committee consultant Mark Stivers. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

The Executive Director presented a report on the compendium of existing and proposed near-term air quality improvement strategies for the I-710 corridor. The compendium was completed under the direction of the LACMTA Board, which requested that a presentation be made of these existing strategies before the Board would approve proceeding with the I-710 EIR/EIS. He asked the Board to receive and file the report and to direct staff to prepare and submit a scope of work for an Air Quality Plan in accordance with the direction given by the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee.

Member Aguirre asked the Executive Director why he was not recommending that any of these strategies be studied. The Executive Director said that the process involved first

identifying what efforts are currently being made. Member Aguirre asked if the EIR/EIS was going to go forward without first implementing air quality strategies recommended by the I-710 Tier 2 Community Advisory Committee. The Executive Director responded that some of the things that the community wants are outside the authority of the participating agencies to implement, but that air quality impacts and strategies would continue to be studied during the EIR/EIS process.

President Nordbak stated that the only action before the Board was to receive and file the report. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

The Executive Director reported that it was now the time to consider the nominations received for the two elected official positions on the MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Governance Council currently held by Samuel Pena and Owen Newcomer, whose terms were expiring. President Nordbak announced that six applications had been received from: Bell Gardens Councilmember Daniel Crespo; Bellflower Councilmember Dorothy King; Huntington Park Councilmember Elba Guerrero; Lynwood Councilmember Fernando Pedroza; Maywood Councilmember Samuel Pena; and Whittier Councilmember Owen Newcomer. President Nordbak invited any of the candidates present to address the Board. Councilmembers King, Guerrero, Pena, and Newcomer spoke to the Board regarding their desire to serve on the Governance Council.

The General Counsel asked the Board members to identify themselves on a ballot and to vote for the two nominees of their choice to serve on the Governance Council. He said that approval of a majority of the Board members present was required for a candidate to be nominated. The ballots were tallied by the General Counsel and the Deputy Executive Director. The General Counsel announced that Samuel Pena and Owen Newcomer had received majority votes for re-nomination to the Governance Council. It was moved by Immediate Past President Wilson, seconded by Member Dobson, to nominate Samuel Pena and Owen Newcomer to the MTA Board of Directors for appointment to the MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Governance Council. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nordbak referred to a draft letter which was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting expressing the Board's position that the proposed Metro Red Line Western Extension be opposed if it means that project would move ahead of projects contained within the exiting project priorities in the Long Range Transportation Plan. It was moved by First Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Stefenhagen, to approve the draft letter for the President's signature. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Director of Program Development presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. She said that Rivers and Mountains Conservancy staff was engaged in planning for the two recently acquired properties, El Encanto and the duck farm. She said the RMC participated in the inaugural meeting of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority, which is working toward moving undeveloped portions of the wetlands into public ownership. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

I-5 Joint Powers Authority Executive Director Jerry Wood presented a status report on the I-5 project. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

Member Lowenthal left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

The Executive Director presented a report from the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee. He explained the process and the new committee structure which will govern the EIR/EIS stage of the project. It was moved by First Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Gurule, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Stefenhagen said that there was no report from the SR91/I-605 Corridor Cities Committee. It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Bayer, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Transportation Deputy presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said that the Committee had voted to oppose AB 2290 (DeVore), which would authorize the operation of triple trailer trucks on exclusive truck lanes to be constructed. These trucks would have to access the truck lanes from city streets and regular freeway lanes. She said the Committee also voted to oppose SB 1507 (Margett), which would add a seat from the South Bay to the MTA Board of Directors because of the additional weight it would give to the west side of the County to the MTA Board. She reported that the COG had sent a comment letter regarding the SCAG Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan. She said that the Sector Governance Council would be receiving a report on the MTA bus route restructuring at its May 11 meeting. It was moved by Immediate Past President Wilson, seconded by Member Dobson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Albert Perdon, Executive Director of the Orangeline Development Authority (OLDA), presented a status report on the Orangeline Maglev Project. He said that members of the OLDA Board, along with Assemblymembers Hector De La Torre and Betty Karnette, had recently returned from touring the Maglev system in Shanghai. He said that the Orangeline technical consultant, ARCADIS, had initiated a ridership estimate study for the proposed route of the Orangeline. He said he would report back at a later date regarding proposed legislation, AB 2882 (De La Torre), as it may relate to the Orangeline. It was moved by Member Du Bois, seconded by Member Dobson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by First Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Gurule, to receive and file the agendas for the SCAG Regional Council and SCAG policy committees. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nordbak announced that committee reports would be agendized differently in the future so that it is clear that the Board has the authority to take action in response to items in the reports at that meeting. He requested approval to use recording equipment at Board meetings to assist staff in the preparation of the minutes. It was the consensus of the Board to direct staff to provide recording equipment at meetings of the Board.

Member Du Bois said that she did not have a report from the League of California Cities Legislative Committee. Immediate Past President Wilson expressed his congratulations to councilmembers who were re-elected in recent city council elections.

After discussion among the Board members, it was the consensus of the Board to conduct the Annual Meeting on June 28, and that the Annual Meeting will serve to replace the regular Board meeting for July.

President Nordbak said that the COG had reserved seats for eight Board members to attend the Twelfth Annual Economic Forecast Conference by Cal State Long Beach and asked for volunteers to attend. Member Pratt said that he would attend. President Nordbak asked that any Board members who may decide to attend to contact the Executive Director.

The Executive Director reported that AB 2015 (Lieu), which would add a seat on the South Coast AQMD Board for the South Bay cities, had advanced out of committee in the Assembly.

Adjournment: The meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned by consensus at 6:54 p.m.