

**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
November 1, 2006**

President Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

PRESENT: President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member Paul Bowlen, City of Cerritos
Nancy Ramos, City of Commerce
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Meredith Perkins, City of Downey
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Ron Beilke, City of Pico Rivera
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate

ABSENT: First Vice President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Second Vice President John Pratt, City of Bellflower
Immediate Past President Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Leonard Chaidez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
Member Fernando Pedroza, City of Lynwood
Member Jeff Siccama, City of Montebello
Member Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Ex Officio Member Kerry Cartwright, Port of Long Beach

ALSO PRESENT: Downey Director of Public Works Desi Alvarez; Downey Assistant to the City Manager Scott Pomrehn; La Mirada Director of Public Works

Steve Forster; Lakewood Director of Community Development Charles Ebner; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Tom Modica; Connie Sziebl, Field Representative for Supervisor Don Knabe; Ernest T. Morales, MTA Gateway Cities Director; Alex Clifford, General Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Mike Sieckert, Planning Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; Darin Chidsey, Member Relations Officer, SCAG; Patrician Price, Senior Public Information Specialist, South Coast AQMD; Ed Eckerie, Program Supervisor, South Coast AQMD; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs, League of California Cities; Luis Cetina, Senior Government Representative, Metropolitan Water District; Jerry Wood, Executive Director, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Director of Program Development Deborah Chankin.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Beltran led the pledge of allegiance.

The Executive Director requested that item G on the consent calendar, relating to the COG Conflict of Interest Code, be removed from the agenda, and that items H and I be continued to next meeting. He referred to consent calendar item F and said that Natural Marketing had submitted a letter requesting suspension of their contract as of December 31, 2006, and that it should be considered as part of that item. It was the consensus of the Board of Directors to amend the agenda as requested by the Executive Director.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

The Executive Director acknowledged receipt of a letter from the City of Whittier expressing opposition to Proposition 90 on the November ballot. He reported on the tour of homeless shelters scheduled for the Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness. He said that Texas Transportation Institute of A & M University (TTI), would out to meet with staff in December on alternative technologies and would like to appear before the Board in January. The Executive Director said that the quarterly newsletter of the COG was now available and distributed a copy of the group picture of the Board taken at the previous month's meeting.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Lowenthal, to approve consent calendar items A through F as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Director of Program Development presented a report on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process. She said that housing needs will be based on the growth forecast prepared by SCAG. She said that SCAG would be holding a workshop for the Gateway Cities subregion on Monday, November 6th. She announced that the SCAG Community, Economic, and Human Development Committee would be

considering a number of relevant policies at its meeting tomorrow. She said she would be available after the meeting to answer any questions that individual Board members may have.

The Executive Director said that it is important that city staff from all of the member cities attend the November 6th meeting to confirm the maps and data that SCAG will be using to make the growth projections.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Ramos, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that the South Bay Council of Governments is once again requesting a contribution of \$2,500 to assist in its efforts to pass legislation increasing city membership on the Board of Directors of the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Similar legislation was narrowly defeated in the most recent legislative session. It was moved by Member Putnam, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to approve the request from the South Bay Council of Governments. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that the State had combined groundwater, storm water, and habitat issues, three areas not previously combined, into the requirements for the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). He said that the COG Board had previously appointed staff from the cities of Downey, Paramount, and Lakewood to represent the COG on the IRWMP Steering Committee for the Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed subregion (the City of Long Beach has its own seat). He said that what is currently before the Board is a Memorandum of Understanding that establishes an IRWMP that pertains only to the implementation of Proposition 50. He said the larger planning issues would be addressed later. He recommended that the Board approve the MOU and authorize Downey Public Works Director Desi Alvarez to sign the MOU on behalf of the COG.

The Executive Director asked Mr. Alvarez to address the Board regarding the proposed MOU. Mr. Alvarez said that the IRWMP MOU is the mechanism for the distribution of Proposition 50 resources to the subregion. He said the MOU leaves open the opportunity for other agencies to join. President Nelson asked if that would cause the agreement to lead into other areas. Mr. Alvarez responded that the MOU pertains only to Proposition 50.

Member Wilson asked how this MOU tied in with previous discussions on the subject of IRWMP. The Director of Program Development responded that this agreement is the one that was identified during those discussions as being in the process of development.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member DuBois, to approve the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Memorandum of Understanding and to authorize Desi Alvarez to sign on behalf of the COG. The motion was approved

unanimously.

Darin Chidsey, SCAG, said that he wanted to reiterate how important the SCAG RHNA workshop of November 6th would be. He said that the SCAG growth forecast would extend out to the year 2035, and that the RHNA process would go out to 2014. He said it is very important to get the cities' evaluation of the data. He said that, in addition to the mailed announcements of the meeting, phone calls have been made to all of the cities and to the County for the unincorporated areas. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities, thanked all who had participated in the recent golf tournament to support the effort to defeat Proposition 90. She said that she would have packets regarding Proposition 90 available after the meeting. She announced the League's Legislative Action Day to be held in Anaheim on November 16th. She reported that the Fair Political Practices Commission had made available an online training course intended to satisfy the requirements of AB 1234.

Member Carroll asked where the polls stand with regard to Proposition 90. Ms. Guerrero responded that the most recent poll was 46%-42% in favor of Proposition 90, but that awareness of its effects was rising.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

Jerry Wood, Executive Director of the I-5 Joint Powers Authority, gave a status report on the I-5 project. He said that the EIR/EIS covering the length of freeway from the Orange County line to I-605 had been publicly released this week. He said a public hearing would be held on December 12th. He said that the plans for the Carmenita Road bridge were now 60% complete and that work on the EIR/EIS for the northern extension of the project would begin after the first of the year.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

Patrician Price, South Coast Air Quality Management District, gave a report on the activities of the Air District. She said that every three to five years the SCAQMD updates its Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), and that the 2007 draft had been recently released. She said a series of public workshops should begin in January. She encouraged participation in those workshops, which will be very important because of the stiff new federal regulations. She distributed a summary and compact disk regarding the draft 2007 AQMP. She said that cities' and counties' participation in voluntary programs helps ensure compliance with the State plan.

Ms. Price introduced Ed Eckerie of the SCAQMD staff, who would be available to answer any questions regarding the draft AQMP. The Executive Director reported that City Managers Steering Committee Chairman Ken Farfaring had agreed to attend a workshop in Diamond Bar regarding the draft AQMP.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Wilson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said that the Conservancy Board had approved the IRWMP MOU. He said that the RMC Board was no longer considering the duck farm as a site for RMC offices, but instead was being planned for a riparian habitat, river vista points, a visitor center, a wildflower meadow, a community garden, and equestrian center. He said that the feasibility study for the restoration of Colorado lagoon in Long Beach had been completed. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Bayer, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that the Request for Proposals for the EIR/EIS should be out by mid-month, with proposals due after the first of the year. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Hurtado, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605 Corridor Cities Committee. He said that he is preparing a Regionally Significant Transportation Improvement Study (RSTIS) through SCAG, which starts the Major Corridor Study process. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Bayer, 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 held a discussion regarding the MTA's Congestion Mitigation Program. She said that Bellflower City Manager Mike Egan addressed the Committee concerning his misgivings about the proposed fee and what it could mean to cities. She said that the Committee had voted to recommend that the Board direct staff to draft a letter for review by the City Managers Steering Committee containing a policy statement expressing the COG's concerns regarding the proposed Congestion Management Fee. It was moved by Member Lowenthal, seconded by Member Ramos, to approve the recommendation of the Transportation Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Housing Committee.

Member Daniels commented on how the sound quality in the room had been greatly improved.

There were no matters from the President.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 6:58 p.m.