

**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
January 2, 2008**

President Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT: President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
First Vice President Anne Bayer, City of Downey
Second Vice President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Immediate Past President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Ron Beilke, City of Pico Rivera
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier

ABSENT: Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member Oscar Hernandez, City of Bell
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member Laura Lee, City of Cerritos
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Ramon Rodriguez, City of Lynwood
Member Robert Urteaga, City of Montebello
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
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
Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach

ALSO PRESENT: Norwalk Councilmember Cherie Kelley; Connie Sziebl, Field Deputy for Supervisor Don Knabe; Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Lakewood Director of Community Development Jack Gonsalves; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; David Tokofsky, City of Bell; Darin Chidsey, Member Relations Officer, SCAG; Alex Clifford, General Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Sector; Kristine

Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Luis Cetina, Senior Regional Affairs Representative, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director/Authority Engineer, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Program Development Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry R. Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

President Guerrero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by First Vice President Bayer, to accept the agenda as posted. The motion was approved unanimously.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

The Executive Director announced that there is a current vacancy on the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council for an elected official representative and that letters had been sent to all cities seeking nominations. He also reported that, to date, thirteen cities had adopted the amended Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement, which permits the County to have as many as three representatives on the COG Board of Directors. Once fifteen cities have adopted the amended JPA, it will become effective.

Connie Sziebl requested that the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of December 5, 2007, be amended to show that she was in attendance. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member DuBois, to approve the consent calendar as presented with the amendment to the minutes of December 5, 2007, as requested by Connie Sziebl. The motion was approved unanimously.

Darin Chidsey, SCAG Member Relations Officer, reported that all of the SCAG committee monthly meetings would be held tomorrow and that the meeting of the Energy, Environment, and Communications Committee was particularly important because the Committee will be asked to approve the release of the environmental impact report for the draft Regional Transportation Plan. He said the EIR would be available for viewing on the SCAG website. It was moved by Member Aguirre, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

League of California Cities Public Affairs Manager Kristine Guerrero reported that the Governor has declared a fiscal emergency, given that the State is facing a \$3.3 billion deficit in the current fiscal year. She said that this means that the Legislature will need to convene and address the deficit or it will not be able to move on any legislation. She said that there is a projected deficit of \$14 billion in fiscal year 08-09 and that many cities will be affected. She said the League will be watching these developments. Finally, she said that Proposition 1B local road bonds should be available January 15th. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by President Guerrero, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Bielke announced that the California Contract Cities Association's annual Legislative Tour will be held later this month in Sacramento.

Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director of the I-5 Consortium Cities Joint Powers Authority, presented a report on the I-5 project. She said that the Record of Decision on the I-5 project was approved on December 31, and that right-of-way acquisition can now proceed. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Immediate Past President Nelson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

There was no report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Alex Clifford, General Manager of the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector, presented an update on MTA Line 60, which travels from Downtown Los Angeles to the Long Beach Transit Mall, and on Line 760, which goes from Downtown Los Angeles to the Artesia Blvd. Blue Line station. He said that Line 60 carries 20,000 riders weekly on its 25 mile route. It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Gurule, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said the Board did not meet in December. He said that RMC staff is currently evaluating the grant applications that have been received. It was moved by Immediate Past President Nelson, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that all state and federal approvals have been received to initiate the EIR/EIS phase of the project. He said the EIR/EIS phase will be a \$30 million effort involving forty-three months of work. He said community participation will be a big part of the process. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said that the study process was evolving in light of the Guiding Principles recently adopted by the Corridor Cities Committee and the Board of Directors. It was moved by Member Aguirre, seconded by Member Gurule, to approve the SR-91/I-606/I-405 Major Corridor Study Guiding Principles. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Transportation Committee.

Immediate Past President Nelson asked that staff place an item on the agenda for next month's meeting for a discussion regarding Board of Directors meeting stipends and that staff report on changes in the Consumer Price Index since the establishment of the stipend.

President Guerrero wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Guerrero at 6:22 p.m.