

**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  
August 6, 2008**

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

**PRESENT:** President Anne M. Bayer, City of Downey  
First Vice President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk  
Second Vice President Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Immediate Past President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
Member Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia  
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell  
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
Member Jim Edwards, City of Cerritos  
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce  
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy  
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Member Gracie Gallegos-Smith, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier

**ABSENT:** Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon  
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens  
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton  
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada  
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach  
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach  
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood  
Member Kathy Salazar, City of Montebello  
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate  
Member Curt Pedersen, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe  
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina, Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach

**ALSO PRESENT:** Norwalk Vice Mayor Cheri Kelley, Chair, MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Council; Cerritos Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Barrows; Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Jorge Rifa; Lakewood Director of Community Development Jack

Gonsalves; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; David Tokofsy, City of Bell; Alex Clifford, General Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; Michael Sieckert, Planning Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; Darin Chidsey, Member Relations Officer, SCAG; David Madsen, Senior Public Information Specialist, SCAQMD; Felix Oduyemi, Senior Program Manager, Southern California Edison Company; Ben Harvey, Region Manager, Southern California Edison Company; Connie Turner, Region Manager, Southern California Edison Company; Tracy A. Young, Anchor, Local Edition, CNN Headline News; Andrew W. Hayes, CEO, Fastransit, Inc.; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry R. Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Gallegos-Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Bayer announced that there was an amendment to the minutes of the meeting of July 2, 2008, and that the amendment should be considered along with the minutes on the consent calendar.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

The Executive Director announced that a round table discussion had been scheduled with Mr. Jim Young, President of Union Pacific Railroad, and that COG board members were encouraged to attend.

It was moved by Second Vice President DuBois, seconded by Member Nelson, to approve the consent calendar as presented, with the amendment to the minutes of July 2, 2008. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director introduced Andrew W. Hayes, CEO, Fastransit Inc., who was there to make a presentation on Low-Cost Maglev Using Existing Rails and Roads. The Executive Director said that Mr. Hayes' presentation was part of the ongoing COG evaluation of alternative technologies for goods movement.

Mr. Hayes gave a power point presentation which described the technology, based on use of linear induction motors, being promoted by his company. He said that a prototype of the technology has been in use for the past seven years in Santa Barbara. He said the system is designed to overlay existing rail infrastructure, with a two meter gauge that spans standard rail gauge.

Member Nelson asked Mr. Hayes if the work on his system was being done under government funding or private funding. Mr. Hayes responded that, so far, the work had been done under Fastransit's own costs, but that they are gearing up to seek government funding. Member Nelson asked what the projected cost per mile is for implementing the

system. Mr. Hayes said for working purposes they are estimating a cost of \$10 million per mile. Member Nelson asked if the system goes down how it would be handled. Mr. Hayes responded that power would have to be cut to the system and carriers moved to side stations. Member Nelson asked if the system would fit into the existing electrical grid. Mr. Hayes said that it would.

President Bayer thanked Mr. Hayes for his presentation.

Felix Oduyemi, Manager, Electric Transportation Division, Southern California Edison Company, gave a presentation regarding Electric Transportation and Impact to Municipalities. He described Southern California Edison's Electric Vehicle Technical Center, which houses the largest fleet of electric vehicles in the United States. The 300 vehicles have logged 16 million miles. He described the energy and environmental benefits of electric vehicles and said that Edison has excess generation at nighttime that could power ten million cars that would be charging overnight.

Member Nordbak asked when the public would be able to purchase these vehicles. Mr. Oduyemi said the vehicles they have now are demonstration vehicles. He said they are looking for people to drive them and see how they perform under normal circumstances. Member Nordbak asked what the increase in rates for electricity would need to be to build new infrastructure. Mr. Oduyemi responded that the company had not done much to build new infrastructure since 1957. He said Edison is required to produce 20% of its electricity from renewable resources under a new law. He said they have to build new infrastructure under the law in order to connect with the wind power in Tehachapi. Member Nordbak asked why they are building out of rate increases to rate payers rather than out of existing profits. Mr. Oduyemi said that Edison has no source of income other than what is received from bills for service. The problem, he said, is that the State in 2001 paid for energy that it did not need. Now Edison has to cover those costs.

Member Nelson asked if we plug in vehicles at home and save energy will we then get separate, lower rates. Mr. Oduyemi said that they would be offering something better than that. Currently peak hours are from 12:00 to 9:00 p.m. He said they are trying to get special rates for plug-in vehicles that are even lower than off peak rates. Member Nelson asked if Edison has signed on for product stewardship with the State of California. Mr. Oduyemi responded no, they have negotiated with auto manufacturers to have a 15-year warranty on the batteries. Older batteries may not be used on a car, but can still work as an energy storage unit.

President Bayer thanked Mr. Oduyemi for his presentation.

David Madsen, South Coast Air Quality Management District, gave a presentation regarding alternative fuel vehicles. He described hydrogen fuel cell vehicles in which the only emission is water. He said that a fuel cell partnership booklet lists stations that now operate in the state. He said the AQMD promotes as many advanced technologies as possible. He mentioned that the City of Chino building code now requires all new homes to provide for natural gas fueling for vehicles. Hydrogen fuel cell cars, like others, are still in the demonstration phase. He encouraged the COG to continue to support and promote these new technologies.

Mr. Madsen referred the Board to the program for the upcoming conference on advance technologies. He said he would be offering complimentary registrations. He said that a hydrogen fuel cell car was parked downstairs for any board members who wished to examine it after the meeting.

President Bayer thanked Mr. Madsen for his presentation.

Nancy Pfeffer, COG Director of Regional Planning, presented a brief power point regarding the Draft 2008 SCAG Regional Comprehensive Plan. She reviewed the purpose of the Regional Comprehensive Plan, emphasizing that it recommends more integrated resource planning, but does not mandate it. The Draft Plan includes recommended sample policies for local governments to implement in the areas of housing, air quality, and development. She said that comments on the Draft Plan were due to SCAG by August 11.

The Executive Director referred the Board to the draft comment letter on the proposed SCAG RCP in the agenda packet. He said the letter acknowledges that the policies in the RCP are voluntary, but that numerous suggested policies are directly relevant to actions taken by local governments, especially the authority to make land use decisions. The letter requests that SCAG convene a technical working group involving the subregions to ensure that there is a full and continuing opportunity to comment on any of the RCP's performance measures. He asked the Board to approve the letter for dissemination to SCAG.

It was moved by Second Vice President DuBois, seconded by Member Nordbak, to approve the Gateway Cities COG comment letter on the SCAG Regional Comprehensive Plan. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Director of Regional Planning reported that the Governor has developed a water bond issue which, for the first time, does not include a direct allocation to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. She said that she had worked with the City Managers Steering Committee, resulting in two draft letters: one to the Governor asking that a specific funding allocation of \$100 million to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy be included in the proposed water bond measure; and a second letter to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy asking that, if successfully attained, that the proceeds of the bond measure be equitably distributed so that the Gateway Cities region receives its fair share of future funding.

It was moved by Second Vice President DuBois, seconded by First Vice President Stefenhagen, to approve the letters recommended by the City Managers Steering Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

Darin Chidsey presented a report from SCAG. He said that SCAG would be presenting a special workshop on the Regional Comprehensive Plan the next day at 2:00 p.m. He said a conference scheduled for September 10 would focus on the high gasoline prices and how they will affect various transportation systems.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said that there was still no approved State budget, and that everything was still on the table, including borrowing of Proposition 1A and Proposition 42 monies. She encouraged

attendance at the League's Annual Conference scheduled for the end of September in Long Beach.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director of the I-5 Joint Powers Authority referred the Board to a handout which showed the segmenting schedule for the I-5 project from the Orange County line to the I-710 freeway.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

Alex Clifford, General Manager, presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said that no new service changes had been proposed for the December cycle. He said the number one goal is to improve on time service. He thanked Member Lowenthal for her work on the Gateway Cities Service Sector's behalf. He said that there would be a survey taken of those who park and ride at the Norwalk Green Line station. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Bayer referred the Board to the report from the Conservancy Committee included in the agenda packet.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that all local advisory committees had been formed and referred the Board to the I-710 project newsletter and map of the study area.

There was no report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee.

The Executive Director presented a report from the Transportation Committee. He said that the COG was able to achieve about two-thirds of a return on the 17.5% contribution from the subregion's cities in the proposed MTA one-half cent sales tax measure. Based on that, he said, Member Lowenthal had voted with the MTA Board majority to request the County to place the sales tax measure on the November ballot. However, he said the previous day the proposed tax did not receive a majority of the Board of Supervisors to place it on the ballot.

Member Nelson introduced Connie Turner as the new representative to the Gateway Cities Council of Governments from the Southern California Edison Company.

President Bayer requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Richard Hollingsworth, President and CEO of the Gateway Cities Partnership. It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn in memory of Richard Hollingsworth.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.