

**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
September 3, 2008**

President Bayer called the meeting to order at 6:02 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
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 Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Kathy Salazar, City of Montebello
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 Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Member Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe

ABSENT: Immediate Past President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina
Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach
ALSO PRESENT: Long Beach Councilmember Tonia Reyes Uranga, Board Member, South Coast Air Quality Management District Signal Hill City Manager

Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; David Tokofsy, City of Bell; Commerce Senior Administrative Analyst Fernando Mendoza; Lakewood Director of Community Development Jack Gonsalves; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; Ron Fisher, Deputy, Office of Supervisor Yvonne Burke; Mike Hollon, Field Representative, Assemblyman Hector De La Torre; Dave Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Metro; 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; Derek Alatorre, Public Information Specialist, SCAQMD; Jesse Glazer, ITS Engineer, FHWA; Robert Pulliam, Tubular Rail Inc.; Melissa Hewitt, Kimley-Horn; Tracy A. Young, Anchor, Local Edition, CNN Headline News; 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 Dobson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

The Executive Director announced that the COG had been invited to attend a briefing by Senator Barbara Boxer on transportation issues to be held the next day at MTA headquarters. He said he would be talking with Congresswoman Napolitano's office about arranging a meeting with the President of BNSF Railroad.

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

Robert Pulliam, Tubular Rail, Inc., presented a report on a proposed Container Port Skid. He explained that the tubular rail concept is not a maglev system. Rails are mounted on the car, which rides on a grade separated system. The system would require only an easement rather than right of way acquisition. Minimum surface area is needed, so there would be minimal disruption. A container port skid would have no moving parts. Its goal would be to work with existing methods, be grade separated, and address air quality.

Mr. Pulliam showed a brief video demonstrating how a passenger system would work.

Member Nelson asked how far away Tubular Rail was from having a working model. Mr. Pulliam responded that, with funding, it could carry its first passenger in three years.

The container skid would take less time.

Second Vice President DuBois asked if the skid would be the way to get cargo to an inland port. Mr. Pulliam said that it would take out of the box thinking to get over the Cajon Pass.

It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

Jerry Wood presented background and an overview on the Gateway Cities Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Integration Plan for Goods Movement. He introduced Melissa Hewitt of Kimley-Horn, the firm that conducted the study under a federal ITS grant achieved by the COG. Ms. Hewitt gave a power point presentation summarizing the Plan. She said recommended projects included completing already programmed critical projects, filling existing major infrastructure gaps, several truck fleet communications and data collection programs, and vehicle enforcement strategies.

Second Vice President DuBois asked if the Plan was something that would still be useful if Caltrans goes ahead and works on the freeways. Mr. Wood responded that it would because of all the different elements included in the Plan.

Member Aguirre asked how it would improve air quality; if a scheduling system would reduce the number of trucks idling, waiting for their loads. Mr. Wood said that was certainly the intention of the Plan. Member Aguirre asked if Caltrans can give figures on the average daily traffic on the freeways. Mr. Wood responded that Caltrans can give total counts, but not counts by lane or types of vehicles broken down on an hour by hour basis.

Member Mirabal asked if the intent was to also look at the I-110 freeway. Mr. Wood said that they would be working with the South Bay COG to look at the whole goods movement system, including I-110.

Mr. Wood said that the recommendation to the Board was to receive and file the ITS Integration Plan Final Report; approve proceeding with preparation of the ITS Implementation Plan; authorize staff to request funding for the Plan and ITS projects; and continue the ITS working group. It was moved by Member Nelson, seconded by First Vice President Stefenhagen, to approve the staff recommendation. The motion was approved unanimously.

Darin Chidsey presented a report from SCAG. He said that SCAG would be presenting a special workshop on AB 32 the next day. 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 the impasse had reached day 65. She said Prop 1A borrowing was not on the table, but a five percent take on every

redevelopment agency is. She said she is working with the cities on developing a list of projects that would stop if the redevelopment takes move forward. She encouraged the Board members to attend 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 reported that she had participated in a field visit of the I-5 project with members of the staff of Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard. She said that contamination issues are becoming very serious for the Carmenita Bridge project

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

SCAQMD Board Member Tonia Reyes Uranga introduced Derek Alatorre, who is replacing David Madsen as the liaison to the Gateway Cities COG. Mr. Alatorre said that the District has almost completed the MATES III study.

David Hershenson presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said that there would be no new service cuts or changes this year. He said that the quarterly transit providers workshop would be held a week from Thursday.

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said that the Board did not meet in August, but that staff had released its recommendations for Tier 1 projects. These recommendations include full funding for projects in Bellflower and Maywood, and fifty percent funding for a project in Long Beach, and account for 70% of the total recommended amounts.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. Member Hurtado, Co-Chair of the I-710 Project Committee, said that the Committee will be meeting more frequently. Mr. Wood said that the project is now moving in "high gear", and that the Project Committee had appointed members of the Community Advisory Committee. He said that Measure R, the proposed half cent MTA sales tax, included \$600 million for congestion hot spots on I-710.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee.

Karen Heit presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said that the Committee had heard the report on the ITS project. She said that the I-110 was the new target for congestion pricing on the HOV lanes. She reported that the Board of Supervisors had voted 3-2 to oppose the MTA one-half cent sales tax measure.

Second Vice President DuBois reported that long-time Lakewood City Attorney John Todd had passed away. She announced that there would be a memorial service at the Lakewood Sycamore Plaza on September 8th at 11:00 a.m.

President Bayer announced that Member Lowenthal had resigned her position as MTA Board Member. President Bayer requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of John Todd.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. in memory of John S. Todd.