

**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
February 4, 2009**

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
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 Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
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 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 Curt Pederson, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Fernando Ramirez, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ABSENT: Past President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member from the City of Long Beach
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Gracie Gallegos, City of Pico Rivera
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina
Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach
ALSO PRESENT: La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Long

Beach Manager of Government Affairs Tom Modica; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; Commerce Senior Administrative Analyst Fernando Mendoza; Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council Member George Francis Bass; Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector General Manager Alex Clifford; Metro Community Relations Manager Metro Deputy Executive Officer Ernest T. Morales; David Hershenson; Metro Planning Manager Jon Grace; Alex Kenefick, Watershed Coordinator, Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council; Luis Cetina, Senior Regional Affairs Manager, Metropolitan Water District; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

President Bayer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Frank Osgood said that he was here to endorse SB 375 relating to greenhouse gases. He invited Board Members to visit his website.

The Executive Director explained two modifications to the schedule of SCAG district elections: District 29, which includes the cities of Long Beach and Avalon, is subject to an election this year; and Santa Fe Springs is now eligible to participate in the District 31 election.

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

The Executive Director introduced a proposed amendment to the I-710 EIR/EIS Memorandum of Understanding which would authorize, by a two-thirds vote by the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee, the addition as a non-voting, ex officio member an agency that has the resources and/or expertise to resolve matters under consideration by the Project Committee. He explained that the amendment was drafted at the request of the Southern California Edison Company, which owns a substantial portion of the right-of-way under consideration for the I-710 project. It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Gurule, to approve the Second Amendment to the I-710 EIR/EIS Memorandum of Understanding and to authorize the President of the Board to write a letter of support on behalf of Southern California Edison to the remaining funding partners who are signatories to the MOU. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from SCAG.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

There was no report from the I-5 JPA.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

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

Alex Clifford presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said that a public hearing regarding service changes proposed to take effect in June has been scheduled for next Thursday. Member Nelson asked Mr. Clifford to inform the Board as to when the Service Sector Council meetings are held. Mr. Clifford said that meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m. at the Gas Company location in Downey.

Member Nelson reported that there have been no meetings of the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board of Directors because funding has been suspended by the State.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that the Project Committee had selected the high growth cargo forecast with no near dock expansion as the baseline for the I-710 environmental study. It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Nelson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the Technical Advisory Committee had approved a feasibility study to present potential "hot spot" to be funded under Measure R. It was moved by Member Nordbak, seconded by Member Carroll, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Second Vice President DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She thanked everyone for their support as the new member of the MTA Board of Directors. She said she intends to put out a monthly report to cities as to what MTA is doing. Jon Grace, Metro Planning Manager, reported that MTA has announced a Call for Projects and encouraged cities to begin working on applications early. He said that he and Deputy Executive Officer Ernest Morales are pledging whatever support they can to make sure that the cities' projects are successful.

The Executive Director reported that, as directed by the City Managers Steering Committee, staff had compiled projects from cities totaling \$1.8 billion as

potential projects to be funded under the Federal Economic Stimulus bill. Second Vice President DuBois reported that the Transportation Committee had taken an action recommending that the Board challenge the assumption by MTA that only \$100 million would be made available to the cities and the County for Economic Stimulus transportation projects. Member Wilson said that the Board should also question the federal allocation formula that divides the funding between the states and the transportation commissions.

After discussion among the Board members, it was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Dobson, to challenge the assumption by MTA of an appropriations split resulting in only \$100 million of \$200 million in Federal Economic Stimulus funding for transportation projects being allocated to cities. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Dobson, to direct staff to contact our federal representatives to advocate for a Federal Economic Stimulus Bill allocation formula that results in a higher percentage of transportation funds going to cities and counties. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Bayer announced that Board members have the opportunity to tour the Port of Long Beach on the evening of April 29. She asked that interested persons contact COG staff.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn at 6:42 p.m.