

**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  
July 1, 2009**

First Vice President Stefenhagen called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**PRESENT:** 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 Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
Member Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens  
Member Bruce Barrows, 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 Kathy Salazar, City of Montebello  
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Member Bob Archuleta, 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 Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe  
Member Gerry Hertzberg, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

**ABSENT:** President Anne M. Bayer, City of Downey  
Member Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia  
Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon  
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell  
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy  
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada  
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach  
Member from the City of Long Beach  
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier  
Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers

Steering Committee; Commerce City Manager Jorge Rifa; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Lakewood Director of Community Development Jack Gonsalves; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina; Luis Marquez, Senior Deputy, Office of Senator Alan Lowenthal; MTA Executive Officer Brad McAllester; MTA Deputy Executive Officer David Yale; MTA Deputy Executive Officer Ernest Morales; MTA Community Relations Manager David Hershenson; SCAQMD Deputy Executive Officer Mohsen Nazemi; SCAQMD Senior Public Affairs Officer Derrick Alatorre; SCAQMD Public Advisor Pom Pom Ganguli; I-5 JPA Executive Director/Authority Engineer Yvette Kirrin; SCAG Regional Affairs Officer Matt Horton; League of California Cities Public Affairs Manager Kristine Guerrero; Conservation Corps of Long Beach Board Chair Glenn Ray; Conservation Corps of Long Beach Executive Director/CEO Mike Bassett; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments made.

The Executive Director directed the Board to the notice of the upcoming meeting of the SB 375 Regional Targets Advisory Committee to be held in Los Angeles.

It was moved by Member Sziebl, seconded by Member Dunton, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

MTA Deputy Executive Officer David Yale gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the MTA's Long Range Transportation Plan (LTRP). He reviewed the planned transit and highway projects contained within the LRTP and discussed the revised Measure R projections and assumptions.

Member Wilson said that he had three questions regarding the LRTP: whether it is too early to talk about changing Measure R; how the COG will be able to provide input; and when the next revision to the forecast of sales tax revenues be prepared. Mr. Yale responded that COGs are an important part of the process and that the outreach effort is starting today. With regard to changes in Measure R, he said that if they are to implement projects wisely, there has to be some flexibility. For example, some projects may be underfunded. He said fiscal year 09-10 receipts are now projected to be 6% lower than originally estimated. He said another 5% decline is being forecasted. Mr. Yale said the LRTP assumes a recovery in 2012, but not to the level that existed before.

He said the assumption is for a 3% decline over the life of the plan. He said they anticipated getting a forecast from UCLA over the summer.

Member Hurtado asked who makes the decisions on what projects will be fully funded. Mr. Yale responded that, ultimately, the MTA Board of Directors makes the decisions. Member Hurtado said that cities supported Measure R on the condition that our projects received equitable funding.

COG Engineer Jerry Wood said that we will set standards for our subregion based on our own projects such as the I-710 early action projects, the SR-91/I-605 "hot spots", and the I-5 project. MTA Executive Officer Brad McAllester said that they would be looking to the COG for advice.

Second Vice President DuBois referred the Board to the motion passed recently by the MTA Board of Directors that said that the MTA Board should only adopt the LRTP after completing a process that provides full transparency, public input, and subregional discussion. She said the motion was based on their concern that highway funding was not at an appropriate level. She called the Board's attention to the upcoming Measure R workshop on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

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

The Executive Director said that we have challenged MTA from the beginning that there has been a bias against highway projects and goods movement. He said the branding of MTA as "Metro" is indicative of the bias towards transit. Mr. Yale responded that these are very fair comments regarding the highway side of the LRTP.

Mohsen Nazemi, Deputy Executive Officer for the South Coast Air Quality Management District, gave a PowerPoint presentation on SB 696 regarding the moratorium on new AQMD permits for development projects. He said that, because of lawsuits against the District, the AQMD has not been able to use its bank of offset credits and that without those credits no essential public service projects can be permitted and no other local government and business permits can be issued. He said the only current option for businesses is to purchase Emission Reduction Credits (ERCs), which are very expensive. He said the solution is for the legislature to pass SB 696, which would allow the AQMD to resume permitting and would establish a baseline offset "operating account" that is exempt from CEQA to service immediate needs. He said under SB 696 power plants would have to pay a mitigation fee to the AQMD that the District will use to mitigate emissions in the immediate area.

Member Hertzberg said that the Board of Supervisors had taken a position to oppose SB 696 unless it is amended. He said there are two issues: 1) what happens to all the good public and small business projects that can't go forward because of the moratorium; and 2) the problem in the bill in that it exempts from CEQA the AQMD rulemaking process. He said the bill as it now stands will not pass unless it is amended

to require the CEQA process for power plants.

Member Wilson said his concern is that his city's fire station is being held up without this bill. He said they also have a police station that needs to be replaced. He said these projects are being held up because of this issue.

Member Hertzberg said this is an issue that is still subject to litigation.

Member Sziebl said that Supervisor Knabe is on record as supporting the bill.

Member Harris said that Supervisor Ridley-Thomas supports separating the power plant issue. He said he agrees with Member Hertzberg's assessment that the legislature is loathe to use the legislative process to shortcut matters that are in litigation.

Member Daniels said that it appears that small businesses are being held hostage in order to get the power plant issue through. He said he supports separating that out.

Mr. Nazemi said in early 2000 we did the same thing during the power plant crisis, and older, dirtier, less efficient power plants went offline.

Commerce City Manager Jorge Rifa said that his city agrees with the environmental community in opposition to this bill. He said they were being held hostage unnecessarily to power plants. He said he supports separating out the power plants.

It was moved by Member Archuleta, seconded by Member Davis, to support SB 696.

It was moved by Member Hertzberg, seconded by Member Harris, as a substitute motion, to support SB 696 if amended to deal exclusively with lifting the moratorium for essential public services and small businesses and bifurcate this issue from any power plant exemption.

## ROLL CALL

AYES: Member Infanzon, Member Aguilar, Member Dobson, Member Farfan, Member Salazar, Member Daniels, Member Putnam, Member Wilson, Member Hertzberg, Member Harris, and Immediate Past President Guerrero.

NOES: Member Dunton, Member Barrows, Member Carroll, Member Archuleta, Member Hurtado, Member Davis, Member Sziebl, Second Vice President DuBois, and First Vice President Stefenhagen.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Member Nelson, Member Kennedy, Member Mirabal, Member Gurule, Member Dames, Member O'Donnell, Member from the City of Long Beach, Member Santillan, Member Aguirre, Member Nordbak, and President Bayer.

The substitute motion was approved.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing presented a staff report recommending that the Board approve a Memorandum of Agreement for TMDL Jurisdictional Reach One to develop a TMDL Implementation Plan for the Los Angeles River. He said this group includes the cities of Compton, Huntington Park, Long Beach, Lynwood, Signal Hill, South Gate, and Vernon, and parts of the cities of Carson and Los Angeles and unincorporated County areas.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Hurtado, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Farfsing presented a staff report recommending support for SB 346, which is TMDL related and provides for the phase out of copper in brake pads.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Second Vice President DuBois, to send letters of support for SB 346. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Deputy Executive Director presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Dunton, to adopt Resolution No. 2009-02:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2009-2010 ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

The motion was approved unanimously.

Matt Horton gave a summary presentation of recent activities at SCAG.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said there is no State budget yet and that the legislature is starting to move towards Proposition 1A borrowing. She said the League is strongly opposed to that and the gas tax and redevelopment agency takes. She encouraged cities to contact their legislators to oppose these takes.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She said that construction is still set for November 2010 for the Carmenita Road intersection, as well as for Alondra Blvd. She said construction should begin 6 months later on Valley View Ave.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

Derrick Alatorre presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He announced an upcoming conference at USC regarding air quality impacts on communities. He informed the Board about a matching grant program for native tree planting. It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector.

COG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer referred the Board to a handout on activities of the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors.

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that traffic modeling, geometric, and other studies are underway. He said the community advisory groups continue to meet. He announced that there would be no meeting of the Project Committee on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said that is important to pursue Measure R funding for the corridor "hot spots" projects.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee and SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

Second Vice President DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She referred the Board to a letter opposing H.R. 1799, which would allow states to increase the weight of trucks on Interstate highways within their states. Member Wilson suggested amending the letter to add language stating that the added weight will further erode the condition of streets. It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Salazar, to send letters opposing H.R. 1799, with the additional language suggested by Member Wilson. The motion was approved unanimously. Member Barrows asked that copies of the letters be sent to other COGs.

Member Hurtado announced two upcoming anti-cancer events to be held in South Gate in July.

There were no matters from the President.

The Deputy General Counsel announced that now was the time for election of officers for 2009-10. She asked for nominations for the office of President. Member Daniels nominated First Vice President Stefenhagen for President. It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Barrows, to close nominations and elect First Vice President Stefenhagen as President. The motion was approved unanimously.

Second Vice President DuBois thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Second Vice President, but said that she would not be seeking the office of First Vice President because of her other duties. Second Vice President DuBois nominated Member Hurtado for First Vice President. It was moved by Second Vice President DuBois, seconded by Member Barrows, to close nominations and elect Member Hurtado as First Vice President. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Sziebl nominated Member Dunton for Second Vice President. It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Sziebl, to close nominations and elect Member Dunton as Second Vice President. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by First Vice President Hurtado, to elect former President Bayer as Immediate Past President. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Stefenhagen asked for self-nominations to the eight open seats on the Executive Committee. It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by First Vice President Hurtado, to elect the cities of Artesia, Cerritos, Huntington Park, Lakewood, Montebello, Paramount, Santa Fe Springs, and Signal Hill to the Executive Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Adjournment:** It was moved by First Vice President Hurtado to adjourn. It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.