

**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
November 4, 2009**

President Stefenhagen called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
First Vice President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Second Vice President Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Immediate Past President Anne M. Bayer, City of Downey
Member Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
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 William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Member Curt Pederson, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ABSENT: Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member from the City of Long Beach
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach
ALSO PRESENT: Santa Fe Springs City Manager Fred Latham; La Mirada

Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; MTA Deputy Executive Officer Ernest Morales; Metro Executive Director of Highway Programs Doug Failing; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershenson; Metro Gateway Cities Planning Manager Mike Sieckert; SCAG Regional Affairs Officer Matt Horton; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Orangeline Development Authority; Lori Gay, President and CEO, Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services; Nina Kihlman, Director of Community Affairs, Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services; Michael Leighs, Emergency Preparedness Liaison, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health; Gene Bougdanos, Vice President, HTNB; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member DuBois led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

President Stefenhagen made a presentation to Doug Failing, the newly appointed Executive Director of Highway Programs for the MTA, recognizing him for his service as Caltrans District 7 Director.

There were no matters from staff.

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

Lori Gay, President and CEO of Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, gave a presentation regarding her organization's efforts to assist those facing foreclosure on their homes. She said her organization provides help at no charge in the form of foreclosure counseling, helping to negotiate loan modifications, and, when necessary, assistance in relocation. It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by First Vice President Hurtado, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Michael Leighs, Emergency Preparedness Liaison for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, gave a presentation regarding the County's efforts in dealing with the H1N1 flu. He described the target audience for the flu vaccines that the County is receiving, saying that the H1N1 flu disproportionately impacts younger people

and pregnant women. He said the County will rely on private providers to get the vaccine out. It was moved by First Vice President Hurtado, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the MTA.

Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs for the City of Long Beach, presented a report on the City's East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration Study. He described four potential alternatives for modifying the existing breakwater that will be studied. He said the City's interest is in restoring a natural beach environment that would improve tourism. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Wilson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Santa Fe Springs City Manager Fred Latham presented a status report regarding the California High Speed Rail Authority's planning in the Gateway Cities area. He said the Authority had agreed to a memorandum of understanding with the COG that will provide for a collaborative planning effort with the affected cities along the route segment from Los Angeles to Orange County. He said the MOU preserves the cities' ability to disagree and be engaged. Mr. Latham said the MOU would be going before the High Speed Rail Authority Board first and will come back to the COG Board of Directors in December. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Nancy Pfeffer, COG Director of Regional Planning, presented a status report on SB 375. She said the planning process has become more flexible and collaborative with SCAG. She said there are still issues to be concerned about. She described two upcoming meetings: a November 18 SCAG Regional Workshop; and a SCAG high level workshop to be held on December 3.

The Executive Director said that the bottom line is that SB 375 represents the most significant change in land use authority from cities to the state. President Stefenhagen said that this emphasizes how important it is for the SCAG committee members to attend these meetings.

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

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

First Vice President Hurtado presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said the Project Committee had met the previous week and had a well attended, very lively meeting. He said cities should encourage their people to attend their local advisory committee meetings. Jerry Wood reported that Caltrans had made a very significant decision to use the SCAQMD's significant thresholds in the I-710 EIR/EIS process.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the important thing for the cities in the study area is that they can set their own course on transportation planning under SB 375 and other laws.

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

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She reported that the MTA Board of Directors had adopted the Long Range Transportation Plan, which includes funds for the I-710 and SR 91/I-604/I-405 projects. She thanked the COG Board members for their support which enabled the subregion to make inroads in the LRTP. She said the letter from President Stefenhagen, which strongly stated that a LRTP without highway funding was unacceptable. She thanked Member Barrows and Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing for attending the MTA Board meeting where the LRTP was discussed. It was moved by First Vice President Hurtado, seconded by Member Salazar, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Transportation Deputy presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She said the JPA was reviewing a series of plans on the upcoming project phases. She said the request for approval of funding for remedial projects during the construction phase would be going before the MTA Board soon. She said there is a need to keep the EIR/EIS on the segment from I-605 to I-710 funded, and that the JPA would continue to work with the MTA on this concern.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the League is filing a ballot initiative to protect local revenues to be voted on in the November 2010 General Election. She said that a petition with one million signatures will need to be filed with the state by mid-April.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He reported on the meeting of the California Leadership Network regarding SB 375, which is scheduled for December 3.

Michael Kodama presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. He said that the inclusion of the Orangeline in the MTA's LRTP means that it is now an official project. He said SCAG has released a request for proposals for the first feasibility study.

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

David Hershenson presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He reported that there are only very minor changes in the annual service level review. He announced that the opening of the Metro Gold Line Extension would occur on November 16.

There was no report from the Long Beach Conservation Corps.

There was no report from the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to receive and file all of the committee/agency reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Stefenhagen announced that he had appointed Member Barrios to the SCAG Community, Economic, and Human Development Committee.

President Stefenhagen asked for four volunteers to serve on the new COG Board Committee on Homelessness. Second Vice President Dunton and Members Guerrero, Salazar, and Nelson offered to serve. It was the consensus of the Board to approve their appointment.

President Stefenhagen announced that the Executive Committee had been asked by Assembly Speaker Karen Bass to send nominations forward for the COG representative on the Board of Directors for the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. He asked which members wished to be included in the nomination list to be submitted to the Speaker. Immediate Past President Bayer, Member Wilson, and Member Guerrero each requested to be nominated. It was the consensus of the Executive Committee to forward the names of Immediate Past President Bayer, Member Wilson, and Member Guerrero to the Speaker.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.