

**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  
December 2, 2009**

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

PRESENT: President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk  
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 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 Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy  
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
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 Bob Archuleta, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier  
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ABSENT: First Vice President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate  
Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon  
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell  
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member from the City of Long Beach  
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood  
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Curt Pederson, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe  
Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach

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ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Jorge Rifa; Santa Fe Springs City Manager Fred Latham; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Lakewood Acting Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; MTA Deputy Executive Officer Ernest Morales; Metro Gateway Cities Planning Manager Mike Sieckert; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; 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 Barrows led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

President Stefenhagen made a presentation to Jack Joseph, Deputy Executive Director, recognizing him for ten years of service to the COG.

There were no matters from staff.

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

Santa Fe Springs City Manager Fred Latham presented an update on the status of the Memorandum of Understanding between the California High Speed Rail Authority and the Gateway Cities COG for coordination and technical analysis for the proposed high speed rail corridor through the Gateway Cities and into Orange County. He said that there were still some outstanding fiscal management issues that needed to be addressed, but that he was confident that they could be resolved in relatively short order. He recommended approval of the MOU conditioned on the acceptance by the COG Executive Director and the study's Administrative Committee of subsequent actions to assure fiscal responsibility.

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Member Barrows asked whether it would be better for the Board to continue this item until the fiscal arrangements have all been worked out. Mr. Latham responded that it was his opinion that the Board should act this evening so that time is not lost in initiating the study.

It was moved by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Guerrero, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding contingent upon the Executive Director's acceptance, in consultation with the Administrative Committee established by the MOU, of actions taken by other agencies regarding the fiscal matters. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Stefenhagen announced that COG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer was available to make presentations on SB 375 to any city councils that would like to have one.

The Executive Director said that the decision that the Board will be asked to make regarding whether the COG will accept delegation from SCAG of the responsibility for implementing the requirements of SB 375 in the subregion. He said that decision will be made at the Board's meeting of January 6, 2010. He announced that there will be a special meeting of the COG's city managers and planning directors on December 17 to hear SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata talk about how delegation would work.

Member Carroll expressed concern about the liability that the COG would assume if it accepts delegation and asked that Mr. Ikhata be asked to address the Board regarding liability before the Board acts.

Member Nelson asked the General Counsel to comment on this issue.

The General Counsel said that there are two big issues to be considered, namely the balancing of the interest of maintaining local control versus the assumption of potential liability. He said the ongoing process has created the ability to find common ground with SCAG.

Member Nelson asked what the message is that we should say to SCAG. The Executive Director responded that the City Managers Steering Committee's position is that they don't have enough information yet. He said the managers are waiting for the December 17 meeting with the SCAG Executive Director. He said that we do know that RHNA responsibility does not come with the SB 375 delegation.

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President Stefenhagen asked whether this is an unfunded mandate. The General Counsel responded that it could be seen as such if the COG takes delegation. However, there is currently no proposal at the state level to make funding available. The Executive Director said that the COG will need to make a serious investment in data collection if it takes delegation.

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

Tom Modica, City of Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs, presented a report on the State Department of Water Resources approval of the Gateway Cities Integrated Water Management Authority. He said that this is significant news for the Gateway Cities COG. He reviewed the decision made in 2006 for the subregion to pursue creation of a Gateway Cities planning agency for Integrated Water Management (IRWM). He said the Gateway Cities region had been the only one denied recognition by the State. He cited the successful appeal of the State's initial denial and said that recognition makes the region eligible to apply for upwards of \$40 million in bond funding. It was moved by Member O'Donnell, seconded by Member Dobson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said there had been several meetings with the local advisory committees regarding the refined geometric plans. He said a multitude of environmental studies will be undertaken over the next several months.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said staff would be meeting with Doug Failing, MTA Director of Highway Programs, on how to move some of the "hot spots" projects forward.

It was moved by Second Vice President Dunton, seconded by Member Salazar, 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.

There was no report from the Transportation Committee.

There was no report from the I-5 JPA.

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Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She referred the Board to the League newsletter outlining the League-supported revenue protection measure which will be on the November 2010 ballot. She said that measures proposed by California Forward and Repair California may also appear on the ballot. Member Barrows said that the COG may wish to oppose measures being advocated by California Forward and Repair California.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association. Member Nelson suggested that the placeholder agenda item for the California Contract Cities Association be removed from future agendas because representatives from Contract Cities have not been attending the Board meetings.

There was no report from SCAG.

The Transportation Deputy presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. She said the big item for the Authority is a \$500,000 grant from the Federal Railroad Administration to help complete alternatives analysis of the segment from Palmdale to Union Station. She said the Authority hopes to make a consultant selection next week for the cross county study with OCTA.

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

Mike Sieckert presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He announced that the opening eastern extension of the Metro Gold Line took place on November 16. He said that Metro will be making some very minor service changes on December 13. Member Salazar asked what the ridership is on the Metro Gold Line extension. Mr. Sieckert responded that the ridership currently is low, at about 13,000, but it is expected to pick up.

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 O'Donnell, seconded by Member Nelson, 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 wished happy holidays to the Board members and said that it would be a challenging year ahead in 2010.

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It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.