

**MINUTES 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  
March 7, 2012**

President Dunton called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**PRESENT:** President Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
First Vice President Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Second Vice President Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens  
Immediate Past President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate  
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia  
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos  
Member Denise Robles, City of Commerce  
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton  
Member Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy  
Member Luis Marquez, City of Downey  
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights  
Member Larry Mowles, City of La Mirada  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Jim Morton, City of Lynwood  
Member Jack Hadjinian, City of Montebello  
Member Cheri Kelley, City of Norwalk  
Member Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Joseph Serrano, 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 Angie Castro, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina

**ABSENT:** Member Michael Ponce, City of Avalon  
Member Ana Maria Quintana, City of Bell  
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach  
Member from the City of Long Beach  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Rick Velasquez, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe  
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Ex Officio Member Christopher Lytle, Port of Long Beach

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ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Bell Gardens Assistant City Manager John Oropeza; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Long Beach Director of Government/Strategic Affairs Tom Modica; South Gate Director of Public Works/City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershensen; League of California Cities Public Affairs Manager Kristine Guerrero; SCAG Public Affairs Officer Matt Horton; SCAQMD Senior Public Affairs Specialist Derrick Alatorre; Thomas L. Mirabal, Works Project Coordinator, Conservation Corps of Long Beach; Robert L. Scott, Executive Director, San Fernando Valley Council of Governments; Margaret Arbin Madonna, Chief Development Officer, Rancho Region, American Red Cross; Leslie Blakey, Executive Director, Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Engineer Jerry Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

First Vice President Daniels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

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

Robert L. Scott, Executive Director of the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments, gave a presentation introducing the new San Fernando Valley COG. He said a series of movements to undo the annexation of the San Fernando Valley by the City of Los Angeles ultimately resulted in the formation of the COG. He said the idea of decentralization of Los Angeles is a prime motivation.

Mr. Scott said that after the 2002 ballot measure for the secession of the San Fernando Valley from the City of Los Angeles failed, a delegation from the City

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met with the leaders of the San Fernando Valley to work out a relationship to give greater autonomy to the Valley. As a result, they were able to have legislation passed that authorized the collection of data at the San Fernando Valley level. Last year the COG was created to be a voice of the San Fernando Valley. Six entities make up the COG: the Los Angeles City Council districts that are in the Valley; the County of Los Angeles; and the cities of San Fernando, Santa Clarita, Glendale, and Burbank. The COG has been recognized as the fifteenth subregion of SCAG. He said their aim is to collaborate with the other COGs in the subregion.

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

Margaret Arbin Madonna, Chief Development Officer for the Rancho Region of the American Red Cross, gave a presentation on the Prepare SoCal program. She said Prepare SoCal is a three-year initiative to have the Los Angeles area prepared for a natural disaster. She said the Red Cross wants to work closely with cities. The goal is to reach a capacity to feed 4 million people a day. She said the need is to increase the number of volunteers from 1,521 to 4,000. The goal is to train 70,000 people in disaster preparedness.

Ms. Madonna said the Red Cross is not looking for money from cities. She said they have grants from Southern California Edison, Occidental Petroleum, and Wells Fargo Bank for over \$4 million. They want to use these funds to organize communities. The ultimate goal is to raise \$15 million. She encouraged cities to contact her for more information.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Hurtado, seconded by Second Vice President Infanzon, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Leslie Blakey, Executive Director of the Coalition for America's Gateways and Corridors, gave a presentation on her organization's activities. She said the Coalition was founded in 2001 to promote investment in goods movement and infrastructure, which was not on the political radar. She said it has been an educational process for congressional representatives, for which these are oblique and obscure issues.

Ms. Blakey reported that their current efforts are focused on passing a new surface transportation authorization. The current eight extension of SAFETEA-LU expires on March 31. The Senate bill authorizes an eighteen month extension. The House has a four and a half year bill that has met with a great deal of resistance because of costs that would have to come out of the general

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fund. She said there is not enough money in the Transportation Trust Fund to finance the entire House bill. She said her organization's message is that investment in the transportation system is not just spending; it is needed for the economy.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Hurtado, seconded by Member Barrios, 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 the Project Committee would be meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of the month. He said there is a slight delay in the release of the EIR to address some air quality issues. He said the Committee is getting ready to work with MTA to program the Measure R funds that are committed to the project.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the project consultants are meeting with city staffs regarding the geometric plans for the freeway corridors.

It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the two freeway corridor reports.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said the I-710 central utilities study had been approved by the MTA Board. She said the Board approved a Measure R equity policy so that cities may use Measure R as a match for other funding. She reported that an additional \$1 million has been approved for the Pacific Electric West Santa Ana Branch transit oriented developments.

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

The Executive Director presented a report from the Committee on Homelessness. He said the RFP for the Homeless Action Plan Implementation Agency has been issued and that the proposal deadline is the end of March. He said the plan is to go to the Board for award of a contract in May.

There was no report on the California High Speed Rail project.

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 said that there is a call for nominations to the State League's Board of Directors. She reported that the Los Angeles County Division is looking to fill the position of Treasurer. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He said the annual SCAG General Assembly would be held on April 4-5 at the downtown Bonaventure Hotel. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

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

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

Thomas Mirabal presented a report from the Conservation Corps of Long Beach. He said the Corps is currently in Huntington Park putting sixteen at-risk youth to work on a park project. He referred the Board to proposals for work that he brought for distribution. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

There were no matters from the President.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:00 p.m.