

**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
November 2, 2011**

President Dunton called the meeting to order at 6:00 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
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Michael Ponce, City of Avalon
Member Ana Maria Quintana, City of Bell
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 Luis Marquez, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Larry Mowles, City of La Mirada
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Alberto Perez, City of Montebello
Member Cheri Kelley, City of Norwalk
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: Immediate Past President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member David Armenta, City of Pico Rivera
Member Rick Velasquez, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Ex Officio Member Richard Steinke, Port of Long Beach
ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers
Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Jorge Rifa; La Mirada

Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Lakewood Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell; Long Beach Director of Government/Strategic Affairs Tom Modica; South Gate Director of Public Works/City Engineer Mohammed Mostahkami; Chris Wilson, Case Manager/Field Representative for Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershensen; Metro Project Manager Adrian Alvarez; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; SCAG Director of Transportation Planning Rich Macias; Jacob Waclaw, Senior Transportation Engineer, Federal Highway Administration; Robert Urteaga, Project Manager, Move LA; Scott Broten, Project Manager, ICF; Susan DeSantis, Senior Associate, Arellano Associates; Andrew Papson, Deputy Project Manager, ICF; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Engineer Jerry Wood; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Lima 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 First Vice President Daniels, seconded by Member Guerrero, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

SCAG Director of Transportation Planning Rich Macias gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). He said the major point is that the region is out of money and needs to find new ways of generating revenue. He said gas tax revenues had not kept pace with population growth and will continue to decline.

Mr. Macias said the RTP will deviate from the original plan for Phase I of the California High Speed Rail project. He said the impact on the LOSSAN corridor and Metrolink have to be looked at first as a condition. He identified the proposed East/West Freight Corridor as a key component of the plan and asked for the support of cities at the Regional Council.

First Vice President Daniels asked where the East/West corridor is located. Mr. Macias responded that staff was going to recommend the SR-60 freeway. He said there will be some opposition from communities along the freeway, as well as a County supervisor. He said the competition for the goods movement economy that will come from the widening of the Panama Canal has made the freight corridor a very critical issue.

Member Barrios asked how tolling would help us compete with the Panama Canal. Mr. Macias said that funding is needed to improve and maintain the freight movement network.

Member Kelley asked which supervisor opposes the freight corridor alignment. Mr. Macias responded that it is Supervisor Molina, but SCAG is dedicated to work with her.

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

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 is still on schedule for the release of the draft EIR in February or March. He reported that the early action projects of the sound walls and utilities studies are proceeding. He said the ITS project includes electrification of the freight corridor on I-710.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the initial traffic modeling for the feasibility study has been completed.

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

First Vice President Daniels presented a report from the Transportation Committee. He reported that three candidates had been interviewed to fill the vacancy for a member of the public on the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council and that all three candidates were excellent. He said the Transportation Committee voted to accept the recommendation of the interview panel that the name of Marissa Perez be forwarded to the Board for nomination to fill the vacancy on the Sector Council. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Lima, to approve the nomination of Marissa Perez to the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Transportation Deputy reported that the Transportation Committee had voted to forward to the Board the findings of the Environmental Committee regarding the I-710 Construction Staging Emissions Final Results:

1. Concur with the findings from the Construction Staging Emissions Analysis.
2. Suggest to Caltrans that the MTA Construction Green Equipment policy be adopted for the construction of any major freeway work.
3. Suggest to Caltrans that a construction emission analysis be prepared for each segment (and for any segments that are being constructed concurrently) prior to actual construction proceeding. Those results are to be used to develop final recommendations so that construction of the segment does not exceed significance thresholds established at that time and that additional mitigation measures be developed to reduce any emissions to the greatest extent possible—taking into consideration impacts on surrounding communities.

4. Request Caltrans to develop construction methods and staging to keep NOx emissions below significance thresholds and to develop additional watering methods as suggested in the report to reduce fugitive dust PM 2.5 from the construction of any segment.
5. Recommend that the Environmental Committee forward the I-710 Construction Emissions Analysis Report to the I-710 Project Team and Caltrans for use in the I-710 EIR/EIS.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by First Vice President Daniels, to approve the findings forwarded by the Transportation Committee and to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Transportation Deputy reported that the Transportation Committee had received the Executive Summary of the Final Draft I-710 Health Impact Assessment and had voted to:

1. Authorize an independent Peer Review process of the Health Impact Assessment.
2. Specify that the Peer Review shall include inputs and comments from the I-710 Technical Working Group, roundtables, and committees.
3. Direct that, at the conclusion of the Peer Review, a final draft HIA report shall be produced and submitted to Caltrans.
4. Specify that the work product HIA report to be peer reviewed may be forwarded to the I-710 Project Team and Caltrans prior to finalization for information purposes only.

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

The Executive Director presented a report from the Committee on Homelessness. He said the next step on the Homeless Implementation Project is to work with County staff on the RFP for an entity to administer the program on behalf of the staff. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

La Mirada Public Works Director Steve Forster presented a report on the California High Speed Rail project. He referred the Board to a recent article in the Los Angeles Times which discussed major changes in the business plan for the project. It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the report.

There was no report from the I-5 JPA.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

There was no report from SCAG.

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.

There was no report from the Conservation Corps of Long Beach.

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

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Dunton introduced Jacob Waclaw, Senior Transportation Engineer for the Federal Highway Administration, who was recently assigned to the Los Angeles Office of FHWA. Mr. Waclaw said that the Los Angeles office had recently expanded from four to ten people. He said he is anxious to meet with the local cities and that he will be working closely with Caltrans District 7.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.