

**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  
October 5, 2011**

President Dunton called the meeting to order at 6:03 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 Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Alberto Perez, City of Montebello  
Member Cheri Kelley, City of Norwalk  
Member David Armenta, 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 Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe

**ABSENT:** Immediate Past President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate  
Member Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach  
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach  
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood  
Member Angie Castro, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina  
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 Farfing, Chair, City Managers  
Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Jorge Rifa; La Mirada

Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Long Beach Director of Government/Strategic Affairs Tom Modica; Niki Tennant, District Director for Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershensen; Metro Transportation Planner Adrian Alvarez; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs, League of California Cities; SCAG Public Affairs Officer Matt Horton; Kedrin Hopkins, Senior Coordinator, Conservation Corps of Long Beach; Barbara Levine, Senior Regional Manager for Gateway Cities, LAEDC; Andrew Papson, Project Manager, ICF; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; 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 Aguilar 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 Member DuBois, seconded by Member Armenta, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

LAEDC Regional Manager Barbara Levine presented a quarterly report on economic and business retention activity in the Gateway Cities region. She said that three cities (Commerce, La Mirada, and Whittier) had been named finalists as the most business friendly cities. She said the biggest gains in jobs in the Gateway Cities area since the beginning of the recession have been in the transportation, utilities, and health services sectors. She said there are signs that businesses are adding capital. Most importantly, she said, is that although the recovery is much slower than they had thought, the economy is still recovering.

Regarding business retention, Ms. Levine said that most businesses are still not aware of the services that are available to them. She said the Governor's Office of Economic Development had put out a press release stating that California is in the top ten of states in which to do business.

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

Andrew Papson, Project Manager for ICF, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Gateway Cities Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). He reviewed the three final reports that have been completed for the AQAP: Near-Roadway Modeling Research; Ultrafine Particle Research; and a Community Medical Needs Assessment.

Following the presentation, it was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Dobson, to concur with the Transportation Committee that these three reports be forwarded to the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee and Caltrans for inclusion in the I-710 EIR/EIS.

Member Dobson said there is real concern in Compton about the health impacts from all of the freeways and the Alameda Corridor. Mr. Papson responded that the AQAP can be utilized to design strategies to improve the situation.

Member Barrios asked what can be done to help the residents who live alongside the freeway. Gateway Cities COG Engineer Jerry Wood responded that the Community Medical Needs Assessment will be used to develop mitigation measures.

Member Nordbak said that he would like to know the quality of medical care that is available. Mr. Wood said that information would be posted on the website. He said tonight's presentation only presented a snapshot.

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said the Conservancy had recently approved a grant amendment for the Los Cerritos wetlands. He said that a reception had been held for Mark Stanley, the new Executive Director of the Conservancy.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said the project is on schedule for the release of the draft EIR in February. He reported that the early action projects of the sound walls and utilities studies are proceeding.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the traffic model for existing conditions has been completed. He said they are trying to get a better understanding of the relationship of the corridor with other transportation projects.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said in August the MTA Board had adopted a "green" construction policy (greener equipment). She said the Board understands it is not practical to impose the policy on cities at this time. She said in September the MTA Board approved the America Fast Forward federal procurement program. She said she had requested a local hiring program for MTA projects along the line of the labor agreement that was approved for the Crenshaw line. She said she fought hard for a policy to offer employment to areas of high unemployment in the county rather than limiting it to within five miles of the project.

The Executive Director presented a report from the Committee on Homelessness. He said staff had been notified today that the contract with the County for the Homeless Implementation Project had been circulated for signature.

La Mirada Public Works Director Steve Forster presented a report on the California High

Speed Rail project. He said the California High Speed Rail Authority is meeting with cities to understand their concerns. He said Tim Buresh had been hired by the Authority to work with the southern California cities.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She said the I-5 Carmenita Road project has officially started, the I-5/Alondra Blvd. segment's bid opening is scheduled for next week, phase one construction mitigation projects are slowly winding down, and phase two projects should start up within the next fourteen days.

Member Kelley reported that the City of Norwalk had given space to Caltrans to host staff to be available to answer questions from residents regarding the I-5 project.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She reported on a second lawsuit against the State regarding the diversion of VLF revenues and distributed a list of the League's high priority bills for signature or veto by the Governor.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He said last week SCAG had conducted a luncheon meeting for city managers to discuss the RTP/SCS/RHNA process. He said next week a public hearing would be conducted regarding the RHNA methodology.

The Transportation Deputy presented report from the Orangeline Development Authority. She said the Authority is moving ahead with alternatives analysis and station location analysis.

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

David Hershensen presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said there is currently a vacancy on the Sector Council for a general public member and encouraged nominations.

Kedrin Hopkins presented a report from the Conservation Corps of Long Beach. He announced the Conservancy's free recycling program and the opening of a new environmental education facility in Signal Hill

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

It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the committee reports.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

The President announced the appointments of Member Barrows and Member Kelley to the Transportation Committee.

It was moved by First Vice President Daniels to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.