

**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
September 7, 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
Immediate Past President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
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 Lilia Leon, City of Commerce
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
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 Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
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
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ABSENT: Member Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Alberto Perez, City of Montebello
Member Angie Castro, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina
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; Bell Gardens

Director of Public Works John Oropeza; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Long Beach Director of Government/Strategic Affairs Tom Modica; Pico Rivera Acting Director of Public Works Arturo Cervantes; South Gate Director of Public Works Mohammad Mostahkami; Pico Rivera Assistant Planner Christina Gallagher; MTA Deputy Executive Officer Shahrzad Amiri; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershensen; MTA Project Manager Tham Nguyen; SCAG Public Affairs Officer Matt Horton; Chester Britt, Project Manager, Arellano Associates; Jenny Larios, Business Development Manager, Mark Thomas & Company; 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.

Immediate Past President Hurtado 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 Lima, seconded by First Vice President Daniels, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

MTA Project Manager Tham Nguyen gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 project. She presented an overview of the project and discussed the two potential alignments, as well as the environmental issues. She said the project is currently undergoing the environmental review process and that a draft EIR is expected to be released in January, with MTA Board action tentatively scheduled for May 2012.

Member DuBois asked if the Superfund cleanup along the proposed northerly route would be completed before construction. Ms. Nguyen responded that the cleanup would be ongoing since it is expected that the total cleanup project will take 45 years.

Member Nordbak asked what the timeline is for final decision of which route would be chosen and what the deciding factor would be. Ms. Nguyen responded that it depends on the funding that would be available. She said currently it is not expected that Measure R funds will be available until 2028, with completion projected for 2035. If the 30/10 Plan (American Fast Forward) is approved, it could go forward in a decade.

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

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He announced the hiring of Mark Stanley as the new Executive Director of the Conservancy.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said the project remains on schedule and that the draft EIR is scheduled to be released in February. He reported that the consultant contract had been awarded for the feasibility study for sound walls.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the traffic modeling is basically done. He said the congestion “hot spots” feasibility study is well underway, with the next step being to complete the traffic model.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She encouraged everyone to travel I-710 to see the bridges that have undergone graffiti removal. She said MTA will be cleaning the railroad bridges every weekend. She thanked Caltrans, MTA, and railroad staffs for putting this project together.

The Executive Director presented a report from the Committee on Homelessness. He said County CEO staff is close to completing the contract for the implementation project.

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

There was no report from the I-5 JPA.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He said referred the Board to a flyer promoting the “Beat the Panama Canal” kickoff to be held on September 9th in the City of Commerce.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

The Executive Director presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He said that AQMD Board Member Judy Mitchell would be writing a monthly report herself to be included in future agenda packets.

David Hershensen presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said the Sector Council would be meeting tomorrow to hear reports from other transit agencies. He announced the passing of Sector Council Member George Bass. First Vice President Daniels said he was happy to report an increased police presence on the Blue Line and thanked Mr. Hershenson for listening and getting the job done.

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.

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

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

There were no matters from the President.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Powers, Secretary