

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Bonnie Lowenthal
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount
April 5, 2006**

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Gene Daniels at 4:36 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Lowenthal, Gene Daniels, Ray Harris, Marina Suieros, Brynn Kernaghan, Don Knabe, Bill Pagett.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Nordback, Elba Guerrero, Ken Farfsing, Stan Carroll, Gary Milliman.

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers, Gateway Cities COG Executive Director; Jack Joseph, Gateway Cities COG, Deborah Chankin, Gateway COG, Karen Heit, Gateway Cities COG; David Hershenson, MTA, Sharad Mulchand, Metro, Alex Clifford, Wally Shidler, Gateway Sector Council, Mohammed Mostahkami, City of South Gate, Sumi Gant, City of Long Beach.

A quorum was reached and the Minutes of the April 5, 2006 meeting were approved.

Director Lowenthal gave a presentation on the status of the Metro Red Line and the MTA Long Range Transportation Plan. She discussed that the recent MTA efforts led to revive the project. The reports have revealed that the Red Line can be safely constructed through gas pockets and that the project has a price tag of approximately \$5 billion of which \$2.5 billion needs to come from state or local sources. She discussed various options for insuring that the Red Line Extension does not jump ahead of other planned and programmed projects including monitoring the LRTP plan revision process. There was discussion and the consensus of the Transportation Committee was to carefully monitor the Long Range Plan update to maintain existing project priorities.

Director Lowenthal reported on the Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan (MCGMAP); a five county action plan for Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Orange, and Los Angeles Counties. She reported on the efforts to date, and that COG staff was preparing comments on the Technical Memo #3. The comments would be shared at the next meeting. Concerns over the process include inadequate information on the existing conditions in the Gateway area.

Karen Heit gave a brief update on the infrastructure bond initiative that was postponed to the November ballot due to an inability to reach consensus on the funding levels and funding categories.

Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, presented the Southeast Los Angeles County Transit Guide that is a reference source for all of the public transit services in the Gateway Cities subregion. The guide tells riders and potential riders how to obtain information for all services in the area; the guide was mailed to 170,000 residents within the area and is available on-line, at city halls and libraries. The guide was a recommendation from the Southeast Area Bus Restructuring Study

Dave Hershenson described the regional council meeting with the MTA CEO. He discussed the upcoming Gateway Sector video marketing services and information to seniors.

Jerry Wood, I-5 Executive Director, updated the progress made on I-5 project. Caltrans has made initial offers on the first homes to be acquired. The 605/Arteria EIR is on track moving that project forward. Both the City of Commerce and East Los Angeles approved recommendation from the I-5/I-710 Mini-Study.

COG Executive Director, Richard Powers gave an update on the I-710 Major Corridor Study (MCS). Final meetings have been scheduled for both the Tier 2 and Oversight Policy Committee during the last week of April. Three of the four requirements of the Burke/Molina Motion have been met including the preparation of the Near-term Air Quality Compendium, governance structure, and the mini-study. The funding plan is partially completed pending the commitment of the Port of Los Angeles. There was some discussion of the type of project that could be found in the Near-term Air Quality Compendium.

Mr. Powers updated the status of the SR-91/I-605 Needs Assessment. The project is currently idling while the COG seeks funding, The California Trucking Association and 25 intermodal carriers are collaborating to provide data to ITS projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.