

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
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
June 3, 2009**

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

PRESENT: President Anne M. Bayer, City of Downey
First Vice President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Second Vice President Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Kathy Salazar, City of Montebello
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Gracie Gallegos, City of Pico Rivera
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Member Curt Pederson, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ABSENT: Past President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member from the City of Long Beach
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina
Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach

ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; Long Beach Transit Executive Director of Community and Customer Services Brynn Kernaghan; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershensen; Jon Grace, Project Manager, MTA; Derrick Alatorre, Senior Public Affairs Officer, SCAQMD; Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director/Authority Engineer, I-5 JPA; Matt Horton, Regional Affairs Officer, SCAG; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Mirabal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The General Counsel announced that two items had come to the Board's attention since the posting of the agenda: a request from Long Beach Transit for support of a funding request under the pending federal transportation funding reauthorization; and a request from the Transportation Committee to take a position on AB 1243, listed on the agenda as an update item. It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Second Vice President DuBois, to add the request from Long Beach Transit to the consideration of Item 8C on the agenda and to add the request from the Transportation Committee to the consideration of Item 8D on the agenda as emergency items that came to the Board's attention after the posting of the agenda and which require action prior to the Board's next meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no public comments made.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Second Vice President DuBois, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Daniels reported that the COG had received five nominations for the two open community member seats on the MTA Governance Sector Council and that the Transportation Committee was recommending the appointment of Jo Ann Eros-Delgado and Harley D. Rubenstein to fill those seats. He said that two elected officials had indicated interest in the two open elected official seats and that the Transportation Committee was recommending the appointment of Downey Mayor Pro Tem Anne M. Bayer and Compton Councilwoman Lillie Dobson to those seats. It was moved by Second Vice President DuBois, seconded by Member Gurule, to approve the recommendations of the Transportation Committee and to submit those nominations to the MTA Board of Directors for final approval. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director reviewed a list of projects that had been submitted to the COG's

Congressional offices for potential funding under the federal transportation funding reauthorization bill. He identified those projects which would be eligible to use Measure R funding for the required match. He referred the Board to the request by Long Beach Transit for support of its funding request under the federal transportation funding reauthorization.

Member Hurtado asked which projects are new and whether they would compete for funds with existing projects. COG Engineer Jerry Wood responded that virtually all of the funding requests fit in with existing projects, with the exception of the truck inspection facility and the air quality monitoring stations. He said these latter two submittals are independent projects that grew out of the I-710 Major Corridor Study.

Member Nordbak asked whether the Long Beach Transit request would jump over other COG projects that are seeking funding. The Executive Director responded that the Long Beach Transit request would be funded out of transit funding, not highway funding, which would be the source of the COG's requests. He said that the request from Long Beach Transit is for COG support of its request, but that it would not be a COG project.

It was moved by Member Mirabal, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to approve the list of projects submitted for funding under the federal transportation funding reauthorization bill and to endorse the submittal by Long Beach Transit for federal transportation reauthorization funding. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood presented a summary of AB 1243 by Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal. He said the bill would put the COG on an equal footing with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol regarding the location of a truck inspection facility. Member Daniels said that a truck inspection facility has been a goal of the I-710 Project Committee almost from the beginning of the project because of concerns about safety. Member O'Donnell asked what the bill does specifically. Mr. Wood responded that it forms a de facto commission of Caltrans, the California Highway Patrol, and the COG. Member Wilson asked what the bill would require to happen. Mr. Wood said that it requires the three agencies to collaborate on the location of a truck inspection facility. It was moved by Member Dobson, seconded by Member Hurtado, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

COG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer presented a report on SB 375. She gave some background on the law and the study for the COG that is currently underway. She reviewed the survey of the cities being conducted by the consultant team. She said the key question is whether the COG should accept delegation to implement a Sustainable Communities Strategy for the subregion. She said the consultant will help the COG determine whether SCAG's "soft target" for the subregion is reasonable. She said SCAG wants to know by September whether the COG will accept delegation. A question to be studied is what liability the COG takes on if it accepts delegation.

Member Mirabal asked whether other COGs are dealing with the same issue. The Executive Director responded that, because SCAG is so large, the state legislation included the delegation option for the SCAG subregions.

Ms. Pfeffer referred the Board to a draft comment letter from the COG to the State Regional Targets Advisory Committee and SCAG regarding SB 375. She said the two major points were that the RTAC consider local land use particulars and that a statewide target for greenhouse gas emissions be no more than 5 million metric tons, so that it is an achievable number. Member Nordbak asked where the 5 million metric tons number originated and asked who drafted the comment letter. Ms. Pfeffer responded that the California Air Resources Board had adopted the number pursuant to AB 32 and that she had drafted the comment letter. It was moved by Member Nordbak, seconded by Member Nelson, to approve the draft comment letter and direct that it be sent to the Regional Targets Advisory Committee and to SCAG. The motion was approved unanimously.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing presented an update on AB 139. He said that, because of opposition from the City of Los Angeles and others, the author had withdrawn the bill. He said that the COG's public works representatives would be meeting with the City of Los Angeles to arrive at a consensus of a fair funding formula and then approach the County with the proposal.

The Deputy Executive Director presented a status report on the release of the truck drivers funded by the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. He said that a series of workshops for the truckers had been held and that the releases were proceeding. He said that, in addition to the release, the Port of Long Beach would be exempting all port trucks funded through the Gateway Cities program would be exempted from the gate fee if they are equipped with a retrofit device to be installed at the expense of the Port of Long Beach.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He said that tomorrow SCAG's Annual Retreat would take place at Lake Arrowhead. He said three policy committees would be electing new chairs.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She said the JPA is working with Caltrans on an extensive review of the plans for the Carmenita Rd. bridge. She said it should be under construction in eighteen months, with Alondra Blvd. following six months later. Member Wilson asked whether these projects are design/build. Ms. Kirrin responded that the JPA does not have the authority to do design/build projects.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

Derrick Alatorre presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He said that there is hope that issues regarding SB 696, which concerns the current permit moratorium, would be resolved that week. He announced that the AQMD's annual leaf blower exchange program would be starting soon. Member Wilson asked for an update on the lawn mower exchange program. Mr. Alatorre responded that the program has concluded and 400 lawn mowers had been given out.

Alex Clifford presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said that the MTA Board had approved the budget for fiscal year 2009-10. He said that the budget included cuts of 190,000 service hours across the system. He said it included 35,000 out of approximately 2 million service hours in the Gateway Cities subregion. He said the cuts will probably come from trip thinning, stretching out service. He said that MTA Executive Director Art Leahy is committed to resolving the budget, which is using one-time revenues in order to balance.

Member Nelson asked for an update on the parking situation at the Artesia Blvd. Blue Line station. Mr. Clifford responded that he thought they had arrived at a deal with the church for use of its parking lot, but that it had wanted to close the lot at 6:00 p.m. He said he will now be looking to working with the City of Compton on another potential solution.

COG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer presented a report from the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors. She said the Coalition is seeking to get a dedicated freight corridor program within the federal transportation reauthorization legislation.

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said that the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board had voted to oppose AB 139. He said they still don't know if they will be able to approve any projects because of the State's unresolved budget problem.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He referred the Board to a handout that summarized recent activities on the project. He said that a number of early action projects are to receive funding under Measure R in a time frame to be determined.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He referred the Board to a handout which summarized recent activities on the project. He said that recommendations concerning "hot spots" projects that may be funded under Measure R will be going to the Committee at its June 18 meeting.

Second Vice President DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She summarized the previous week's meeting of the MTA Board of Directors which dealt with a contractor who was supposed to deliver 100, then 50, light rail cars but had failed to perform. She said the matter was continued to late July. She said that the MTA contract with the Sheriff's Department had been approved for three years, with

options for two one-year extensions. She said that the MTA was expecting a reduction of \$6.6 billion in Long Range Transportation Plan revenues.

Ken Farfsing discussed an item which had been added to the Transportation Committee's agenda that recommended that the COG President send a letter opposing the Department of Finance's proposal that the State shift local gas tax revenues in order to balance the State budget. He said the Transportation Committee had voted to recommend that the COG formally oppose the proposed shift. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Nelson, to oppose the propose shift of local gas tax revenues and to authorize the President to send letters to the Governor and the state legislators stating the Board's position. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Bayer announced that the next meeting of the Board would be held on July 1 and that it will be the Annual Meeting at which the election of officers and adoption of the budget will occur.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.