

**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
August 4, 2010**

President Hurtado called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
First Vice President Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Second Vice President Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Immediate Past President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Anne M. Bayer, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Susan Tripp, 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 Betty Putnam, 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 Curt Pederson, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ABSENT: Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member from the City of Long Beach
Member from the City of Montebello
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Bob Archuleta, City of Pico Rivera
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, 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; Santa Fe Springs City Manager Fred Latham; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; Ryan Alsop, Office of the Chief Executive Officer, County of Los Angeles; MTA Interim Director Jon Grace; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershenson; MWD Senior Regional Affairs Representative Luis Cetina; SCAG Public Affairs Officer Matt Horton; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Conservation Corps of Long Beach; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Orangeline Development Authority; Gene Bougdanos, Vice President, HNTB; Frank Osgood, Author of Region Aroused; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

First Vice President Dunton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing requested the Board to amend the agenda to add an item related to AB 2554, which was pending amendments in the Assembly to meet the objections of cities. It was moved by First Vice President Dunton, seconded by Second Vice President Daniels, to find that the issues regarding AB 2552 had come to the attention of the Board after the posting of the agenda and that action was needed to be taken that could not wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, and to add the item regarding AB 2554 to the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no public comments.

President Hurtado asked COG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit and Ray Harris, former Transportation Deputy to Supervisor Knabe, to join him at the podium. President Hurtado and Karen Heit congratulated Ray Harris on his recent retirement and commended him on his years of service to the COG and the community as Supervisor Knabe's Transportation Deputy. President Hurtado presented a plaque to Mr. Harris in recognition of his service. Mr. Harris thanked the Board for the recognition and commented on his many years of service in the Gateway Cities, both as Supervisor Knabe's deputy during his time as a city manager and other staff positions with cities in the sub-region.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair of the City Managers Steering Committee, presented a staff report regarding a Memorandum of Agreement between the COG and participating cities to fund special studies related to the copper TMDLs in the Los

Angeles River watersheds. He recommended that the Board approve an agreement with Larry Walker Associates to perform a special study for the Los Angeles River Metals TMDL and an agreement with Flow Science for scientific oversight of the study. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member DuBois, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement and to award contracts to Larry Walker Associates and Flow Science to perform the studies. The motion was approved unanimously.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing presented a staff report recommending that the Board award a contract to Cambridge Systematics for the preparation of the sub-regional Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) mandated by SB 375. He explained that the SCS Policy Development Committee had reviewed the three proposals to perform the project and had determined that Cambridge Systematics had the most responsive proposal. Subsequent negotiations with Cambridge Systematics resulted in a reduction of the original proposal price to \$373,246. He presented a revised city assessment schedule totaling \$410,000 to conform to the actual project cost, including a 10% contingency.

Member Nordbak asked if there is a plan on what to do if some cities do not pay the assessment. Mr. Farfsing responded that the hope was that all cities would ultimately participate, but if that scenario did develop, it would need to be dealt with at that time.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Bayer, to approve the contract with Cambridge Systematics for development of the Sub-regional Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) and to approve the recommended assessment schedule. The motion was approved unanimously.

Members O'Donnell and Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. It was reported that the Conservancy Board had held a discussion regarding the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy audit. It was moved by Member Dobson, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Hurtado presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that the Project Committee meetings have been well attended by energized people whose concern is children's health. Jerry Wood reported that the Project Committee had approved a schedule that has slipped by about six months to a year due to the need to revise plans because of heavier truck traffic, changes requested by the cities of South Gate and Commerce, and ongoing discussions with the utilities. He said the Project Committee had heard a report from CALSTART on the development of zero emission trucks. He said the aesthetics plans for the freeway are coming together. President Hurtado reminded cities to continue to hold local meetings on the project. Second Vice President Daniels commended President Hurtado for his handling of the public comments received at the Project Committee meeting. Member DuBois commended President Hurtado on his job as Chair of the Project Committee.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said an RFP to proceed with feasibility studies had been issued by the MTA and that

proposals are due by the end of the month, with the selected consultant to start in October or November. He said the studies would enable the COG to put together a Gateway Cities Strategic Plan.

It was moved by Member Tripp, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to receive and file the reports from the I-710 Project Committee and the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Transportation Committee.

Santa Fe Springs City Manager presented a report from the Committee on Homelessness. He said that each of the four geographical sub-regions is now meeting on a regular basis. He said the PATH team is going to each of the communities to identify "hot spots".

Santa Fe Springs City Manager Fred Latham presented a report on the California High Speed Rail project. He said the consultants retained by the High Speed Rail Authority continue to evaluate the proposed alignment. He said all of the cities are engaged in the process. The challenge is that four cities will have impacts from two alignments, including the alignment to San Diego, which is not part of this analysis. He said he is concerned that the deadline for federal ARRA funding is driving this process too fast. He said issues include why there is a terminus in Anaheim, concerns that the ridership projections are too high, and that there is a need to better engage the cities.

Member DuBois asked about Mr. Latham's impressions of the new CHSRA Executive Director. Mr. Latham responded that the cities are pleased with the new Executive Director, and that he listens well.

Member DuBois said she is concerned about the conflict between cities having to meet certain RHNA numbers and the number of homes that could be lost to the project.

Member Barrows said for \$8 billion in costs there would only be between a five and eleven minute savings in the time of travel between Los Angeles and Anaheim versus Metrolink or Amtrak.

Mr. Latham said the proposal for shared track would reduce the cost and impact of the project, but would eliminate 25 to 30 Metrolink trains.

Fred Latham presented a report from the I-5 JPA. He said that good progress had been made on the challenges that would slow down the construction of the project. He credited the MTA for its involvement. He said they are still looking at the initiation of the Carmenita Road project.

It was moved by Member Dobson, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report from the Committee on Homelessness, the report on California High Speed Rail, and the report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the Democrats had announced their budget proposal yesterday and that the League is examining it. She said it does not look like there are takes from the cities. However, the Republicans and the Governor have said they will not support it. She said the League had filed a lawsuit against the Legislative Analyst's summary of Proposition 22 regarding the impacts of State takeaways from local governments. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Lima, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He said that SCAG would be dark in August. He said CARB should release the regional greenhouse gas targets this month.

Michael Kodama presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. She said the Authority had received approval of its first E-76 from Caltrans. He summarized the ongoing study of the West Santa Ana Branch alignment. It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Lima, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

David Hershenson presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said Metro is holding a series of five public hearings to receive comments on proposed service changes. He said the Gateway Cities meeting would be held in Downey a week from tomorrow. It was moved by Member Rodriguez, seconded by Second Vice President Daniels, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

A representative from the Long Beach Conservation Corps presented a report. He said the Conservation Corps had received a \$100,000 earmark for an Earn and Learn Program for youths in Paramount and Hawaiian Gardens. He said an Energy Assistance grant is expected to create at least 60 jobs. He said the program is expected to serve 20,000 homes a year. It was moved by Member Bayer, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing presented a staff report regarding AB 2554, which had been added to the agenda earlier in the meeting. He credited Ryan Alsop and other County staff for working out the issue with cities regarding the split of funding on the proposed storm water assessment, which would be authorized by an election pursuant to AB 2554. The new formula would allow the County to keep 10% of the funds for administration, with 40% going to cities for local programs, and the remaining 50% to watershed projects.

Mr. Farfsing said the cities would like to make sure that the funds generated by the

Gateway Cities properties remain within the Gateway Cities watersheds. He credited Mr. Alsop of the County Chief Executive Office for making this happen. He said a compromise proposal was for the County to join the Gateway Cities IRWM JPA to administer the Lower Los Angeles River and Lower San Gabriel River watersheds. This latter provision would be handled outside of the legislation and is memorialized in a side letter from the County.

Mr. Farfsing recommended that the Board approve the amended version of AB 2554.

Member Nordbak said the City of Whittier recognizes the County has come a long way from its original position. He said the result is not perfect, but that he supports it.

Ryan Alsop thanked Ken Farfsing for his efforts to make this compromise happen. He said he was speaking for the Chief Executive Officer in saying that the County is committed working with the Gateway Cities. He said the previous plan, which was County-centric, was a bad plan.

It was moved by Member O'Donnell, seconded by Member Bayer, to support AB 2554 as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no matters from Board members.

President Hurtado announced that he had appointed Immediate Past President Stefenhagen to the Transportation Committee.

President Hurtado presented a plaque to Immediate Past President Stefenhagen commending him for his year of service as President of the COG. He commended Immediate Past President Stefenhagen for his efforts to encourage participation by the Board members and members of committees.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.