

# GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

## Transportation Committee

### **AGENDA**

*Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021*

**Note Start Time - 4:45 P.M. Meeting**

***Gateway Cities Council of Governments***

***MEETING REMOTE LOCATION: VIA ZOOM***

**Register Here:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_iA-1EJ1VSsaUVkScJarHjg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iA-1EJ1VSsaUVkScJarHjg)

AGENDA REPORTS AND OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE GATEWAY CITIES COG WEBSITE AT [WWW.GATEWAYCOG.ORG](http://WWW.GATEWAYCOG.ORG).

ON MARCH 4, 2020, GOVERNOR NEWSOM PROCLAIMED A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO EXIST IN CALIFORNIA AS A RESULT OF THE THREAT OF COVID-19. THE GOVERNOR HAS ISSUED EXECUTIVE ORDERS THAT TEMPORARILY SUSPEND REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT, INCLUDING ALLOWING PUBLIC AGENCIES TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING AND TO MAKE PUBLIC MEETINGS ACCESSIBLE TELEPHONICALLY OR OTHERWISE ELECTRONICALLY TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** To address the Transportation Committee on any agenda item or a matter within the Transportation Committee's purview, please provide written comments by 1:45 p.m. the day of the meeting, via email to [info@gatewaycog.org](mailto:info@gatewaycog.org). All written comments timely submitted will be distributed to the Committee members and will become part of the official record.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA - This is the time and place to change the order of the agenda, delete or add any agenda item(s).
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- V. MATTERS FROM STAFF

**VI. CONSENT CALENDAR:** All items under the Consent Calendar may be enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Calendar and acted upon separately by the Transportation Committee.

- A. Approval of Minutes – Minutes of the Transportation Committee Meeting of January 6, 2021

CONSENT CALENDAR ACTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS.

**VII. REPORTS – MEMBERS AND STAFF**

- A. Metro Matters, Metro Board Meetings and Other Topics of Interest, Oral Report by Mayor Robert Garcia, Metro Director

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

**VIII. REPORTS – COMMITTEES/AGENCIES**

- A. Report on Metro Traffic Reduction Program from Tham Nguyen, Metro Senior Director

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- B. Metro Technical Advisory Committee Update, Lisa Rapp, Lakewood Director of Public Works.

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

**IX. MATTERS FROM TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

NOTICE: New items will not be considered after 5:30 P.M. unless the Transportation Committee votes to extend the time limit. Any items on the agenda that are not completed will be forwarded to the next regular Transportation Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 3, 2021.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE COG OFFICE AT (562) 663-6850. NOTIFICATION 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING WILL ENABLE THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR**  
**Item A.**  
**Minutes**  
**January 6, 2021**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, January 6, 2021  
4:00 P.M. Meeting**

Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
MEETING REMOTE LOCATION: VIA ZOOM

**Chair - MTA Director, Long Beach Mayor - Robert Garcia**

Meeting called to order at 4:08 by Mayor Maria Davila, City of South Gate, Roll call was taken by self-introduction.

MEMBERS PRESENT: COG Board President – Mayor Maria Davila, City of South Gate, Councilmember Fernando Dutra – City of Whittier, Councilmember Emma Sharif – City of Compton, Thaddeus McCormack – City Manager, City of Lakewood, Tracy Beidleman – Long Beach Transit, Sharon Weissman – Commissioner, Port of Long Beach, Jocelyn Rivera-Olivas – Supervisor Hahn’s Office, Bill Pagett – Public Works Officer, Martin Reyes – Supervisor Solis’ Office, Karen Lee, City of Artesia.

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy Pfeffer, Karen Heit, Joel Arevalos, Sandra Mora, Stephanie Cadena– COG Staff, Mahogany Smith, Erica Copeland – CivicSpark Fellows, Norman Emerson – Emerson & Associates, Justin Ramirez, Luke Klipp – Metro Transportation Deputies to Mayor Garcia, Lorry Hempe – City of Lynwood, Shannon Delong – City of Whittier, Sara Bauman – Long Beach Transit, Chad Kim, Joseph Forgiarini, Mark Dierking, Mark Vallianatos, Craig Hoshijima, Steven Lee – Metro, Nina Turner, Theresa Dau-Ngo – Port of Long Beach, Andres Molina – WSP.

There was no public comment or matters from staff.

The Consent Calendar was approved, with Tracy Beidleman abstaining.

Justin Ramirez, Metro Board Deputy to Mayor Robert Garcia, made the report on the MTA Board meeting and gave the MTA report beginning with congratulating Whittier Councilman Fernando Dutra on being elected Metro Board Director for the Gateway Cities subregion.

He indicated that Mayor Garcia would continue to serve as Metro Board Member until the election of Councilmember Dutra can be ratified by the LA County City Selection Committee as the Southeast Sector Representative.

COG President Maria Davila had Executive Director Nancy Pfeffer introduce Craig Hoshijima from Metro to make a presentation on the Subregional Equity Program (SEP)

White Paper. Hoshijima gave a short history on the origins of the SEP, which was added to Measure M at the last minute. He reviewed the inflation of the SEP amount and explained that Metro staff was instructed to create a policy for subregions to access the funds. He reviewed use of SEP for the Foothill contract. He outlined the path forward which will include Guidelines going to the Metro Board for adoption in March of 2021 after working with stakeholders.

Karen Heit, GCCOG Transportation Analyst, gave a short presentation on the SEP from a GCCOG perspective. She reviewed a draft comment letter for the committee to forward to the full COG Board. The letter questioned some aspects of funding, the process for recommending projects to the MTA Board, and borrowing procedures.

Commissioner Sharon Weissman, Port of Long Beach, asked for language to be added to allow for the subregion to reserve the right to spend the SEP on one or two projects instead of doling out funding to all the cities. Councilmember Fernando Dutra asked if that meant allowing the SEP to go to a group of cities, Ms. Weissman indicated that it would allow the COG to maintain flexibility.

Executive Director Pfeffer reminded the Committee that projects would require a recommendation of approval to send to the Board for execution. Ms. Weissman suggested adding language specific to allowing the flexibility for a single project as well as distribution to less than all cities. The item was approved to be forwarded to the GCCOG Board with the change in language.

COG President, Mayor Davila of South Gate, introduced Mark Vallianatos, Executive Officer for the Metro Office of Extraordinary Innovation. Mr. Vallianatos gave a presentation on the Metro COVID-19 Recovery Plan and its recommendations. He went over the process and outlined the Plan goals at a high level.

The recommendations included: addressing increased auto ownership, running express buses on improved HOV and express lanes, accelerate networks of complete streets, fully integrate transit in the LA region, offer incentives to reduce auto ownership, and improve rail station amenities. Other recommendations included improving public engagement, gather more data, accelerate Transit-Oriented Community (TOC) development, expand the region's broadband infrastructure, create green jobs and green infrastructure, save funds by becoming more efficient and enhance new revenues. He discussed the relationship of some of the recommendations to other MTA plans and projects. He mentioned teaming up with the arts and performing institutions and venues to provide transit incentives as well as support those institutions.

Karen Heit gave a short presentation of a potential COG letter commenting on the Plan. The letter asks for clarification on the addition of express buses outside of those identified in NextGen and questioned the nexus between loss of transit ridership and increased auto ownership and questioned an increase in lease revenues. The letter encourages the

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advancement of complete streets and expansion of broadband infrastructure with all Metro construction projects.

Councilman Dutra asked which of the recommendations could be done easily and effectively. The item was approved to be forwarded to the GCCOG Board for execution.

Mayor Davila called for the TAC report by Lisa Rapp, there was no TAC meeting held.

Motion to adjourn made at 5:15.