

**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 Blvd.  
Paramount, California  
May 3, 2017**

President Austin called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**PRESENT:** President Al Austin, City of Long Beach  
First Vice President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park  
Second Vice President Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier  
Immediate Past President Ali Saleh, City of Bell  
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia  
Member Anni Marshall, City of Avalon  
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
Member Jim Edwards, City of Cerritos  
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton  
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy  
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member John Lewis, City of La Mirada  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk  
Member Bob J. Archuleta, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member Maria Davila, City of South Gate  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Joseph Martinez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis  
Member Doug Drummond, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

**ABSENT:** Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens  
Member Ivan Altamirano, City of Commerce  
Member Fernando Vasquez, City of Downey  
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry  
Member Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach  
Member Edwin Hernandez, City of Lynwood  
Member Joaquin Lanuza, City of Maywood  
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello  
Member from the City of Paramount  
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Member Herlinda Chico, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn

ALSO PRESENT: Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Artesia Administrative Manager Pradeep Elayath; Downey Director of Public Works Mohammad Mostahkami; Bell Gardens Public Works Director Chau Vu; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Sharon Weissman, Board Deputy, Office of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia; Long Beach Special Projects Officer Luke H. Klipp; South Gate Associate Engineer Gladis Deras; Lance Grindle, Head, City Services, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; David Frownfelter, Intern, Office of Senator Ricardo Lara; Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Kalieh Honish, Executive Officer, Long Range Planning, Metro; Gregory Farr, Region Chief, Caltrans; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco Rapid Transit; Bonnie Temple, Regional Marketing/Development, Kettelson; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Transportation Analyst Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Kekoa Anderson; GCCOG Consultant Engineer/I-5 JPA Executive Director Yvette Kirrin.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Austin.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

President Austin made a presentation to former Board Member Gil Hurtado in recognition of his service as the Co-Chair of the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee and as a former COG President and Board Member. Mr. Hurtado thanked the Board for the recognition and said the key to success is working together.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member Lima, seconded by Second Vice President Dutra, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Hyacinth Vassell, Director of the Inner-City Capital Connections program of the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City, gave a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the program's goal of strengthening small businesses located in inner city communities. The program is structured around training for these business executives to reevaluate their sales and marketing strategies, identify new alliances or partnerships, and to position themselves to access capital to help their businesses grow. She said that, since the program's inception in 2005, over \$1.3 billion in total capital has been raised, resulting in the creation of over 12,000 jobs. In the Los Angeles area over \$162 million in capital has been raised.

Ms. Vassell stated the criteria for businesses to participate in the ICCC program are that it: is an independent corporation, partnership, or proprietorship; have its headquarters or

more than 51% of its physical operations located in an economically distressed area or have more than 40% of its employees residing in an economically distressed area; and has been in operation for at least two years. She said ICCC is open for nominations for the program, which begins with an application, followed by an opening seminar, webinars, coaching, and a conference in New York. She said the total program takes about 40 hours. Currently, applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until July 21, 2017.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by First Vice President Pineda, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kekoa Anderson and Yvette Kirrin, COG Consultant Engineers, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the recently completed Artesia Boulevard Complete Street Master Plan. They explained the purpose of the master plan was to develop a unified, Subregional multimodal transportation corridor strategy that can be used to obtain funding for the cities in the corridor. Artesia Boulevard is the first of what is anticipated to be a series of corridor studies over time, including the Lakewood/Rosemead Boulevard Corridor study, which is currently underway. The Artesia Boulevard corridor stretches from the COG's western boundary to its eastern boundary and travels through the cities of Compton, Long Beach, Bellflower, Cerritos, and Artesia.

Mr. Anderson and Ms. Kirrin reviewed the steps of the study, including a summary of existing conditions, data collection, meetings with cities to determine their vision of the corridor, and analysis from a complete streets standpoint. Those elements include safe routes for bicycles and pedestrians, enhanced stormwater systems, landscaping, traffic calming measures, transit routes and stops, and urban forest and greening.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Saleh, seconded by First Vice President Dutra, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Transportation Analyst Karen Heit gave a PowerPoint presentation detailing the recommendations from staff for the use of Measure M Subregional Equity Funds. She said there are two levels of recommendations: one set of recommendations for the allocation of Subregional Equity Funds through MTA, and suggestions for expenditures for the COG. With regard to the MTA Master Guidelines, she said funds should be equitably distributed to all subregions consistent with the availability to the San Fernando Valley Rapid Bus Transit commencing in 2018. Additionally, funds should be local sales tax revenues, not a combination of federal, state, and local funds. Finally, before funds are allocated, MTA should work with each subregion to identify which projects and programs are priorities for this funding.

Ms. Heit then discussed the recommendations for the COG, including allocating a percentage for active transportation; requesting funding with specific targets such as an amount for funding the first five years of advancing STP projects to construction; maintaining separation between major initiatives funding; and allowing some funding for matching grants for freight technology advancement.

Yvette Kirrin, who serves as the COG's representative to the Measure M Policy Advisory Council, gave a PowerPoint presentation on staff recommendations on the Draft Measure M Master Guidelines. She outlined the key recommendations: multi-year subregional funds should receive the same consideration for bonding as major projects; Subregional Equity projects should be developed using the subregional process developed by the COGs, rather than a Metro-centric process based on "project readiness"; system connectivity projects shouldn't be subject to the 3% local contribution; for those projects that require a 3% local contribution, the options should be expanded to include staff time, benefits to the station, and "betterments" that improve system usage; and that, if a minimum local return is provided for the local return, that no reduction in funding from other cities or agencies be used to offset the minimum.

It was moved by Second Vice President Dutra, seconded by Member Lima, to approve the staff recommendations regarding the Measure M Expenditure Plan Subregional Equity Funds and the Draft Measure M Guidelines. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Deputy Executive Director reported that there is a vacancy on the MTA Technical Advisory Committee's Streets and Freeways Subcommittee for a COG representative. He said the Public Works Officers Committee had recommended the appointment of Ed Norris of the City of Downey as the representative and Arturo Cervantes of the City of South Gate as the alternate.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Second Vice President Dutra, to approve the appointment of Ed Norris as representative and Arturo Cervantes as alternate to the MTA TAC Streets and Freeways Subcommittee. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Deputy Executive Director referred the Board to the report that the Board had requested showing the current status of delinquent dues and assessments. It was moved by First Vice President Pineda, seconded by Member Shryock, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Austin recommended the creation of a five-member committee to meet and develop the initial process for the recruitment of a new Executive Director. He recommended that the committee consist of the Chair of the City Managers Steering Committee and a second city manager selected by the City Managers Steering Committee, the President, the Immediate Past President, and a third Board member who was either a past president or is currently a committee chair. Member DuBois said it would be expected that the committee would make monthly reports to the Board for the Board's approval.

It was moved by Member Marshall, seconded by Member Sharif, to approved the President's recommended structure of the committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

There was no report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee.

There was no report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee.

Transportation Assistant Sharon Weissman presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said the Metro Board had voted to separate the bicycle corridor project from the I-710 project. She said the number of potential routes for the Eco Rapid Transit project had been narrowed from six to four. She said on Monday the first of the new Blue Line trains had been put into operation, with completion of the overhaul of the system targeted for completion in January 2019.

There was no report from PATH.

Nancy Pfeffer presented a report on the Cap and Trade program. She announced that the COG had successfully received grant funding of \$466,00 from the California Energy Commission and \$50,000 from SCAG for the development of a Climate Action Plan Framework that could be used by cities as the model for their own plans.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA. She reviewed the completion status of the various elements of the ongoing I-5 improvement project: Valley View 6% complete; Alondra 100% complete; Carmenita substantially complete; Rosecrans 85% complete; Imperial/Norwalk 70% complete; and Florence 42% complete. She said a committee is looking at alternative funding strategies for the segment from I-605 to I-710.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

There was no report from SCAG.

Michael Kodama presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. He reported that the draft environmental process has been initiated and that he is working with Metro staff. He said some board members had recently returned from China where they examined new technologies in use there.

There was no report from the South Coast AQMD.

There was no report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council.

It was moved by Member Lima, seconded by First Vice President Pineda, to receive and file all committee and agency reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Austin announced that there is a vacancy for a Board representative to the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA). Member Edwards volunteered to

serve as the representative to the JPIA. President Austin announced the appointment of Member Edwards as the representative to the JPIA.

It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn to a closed session at 8:03 p.m.

The Board returned from closed session at 8:55 p.m. The Deputy General Counsel announced that the Board had met in closed session and that no action had been taken.

**Adjournment:** It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn at 7:58 p.m.