

**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
November 2, 2016**

President Austin called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 Cinde MacGugan Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy
Member Fernando Vasquez, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Edward Eng, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Salvador Alatorre, City of Lynwood
Member Mike Mendez, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Javier Hernandez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member Rick Velasquez, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe

ABSENT: Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member George Ray, City of Cerritos
Member Ivan Altamirano, City of Commerce
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach
Member Thomas Martin, City of Maywood
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Member Tracy Egoscue, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

ALSO PRESENT: Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Jorge Rifa; Bell Gardens Director of Public Works Chau Vu; Downey Director of Public Works Mohammad Mostahkami; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Pico Rivera Director of Public Works James Enriquez; South Gate Associate Engineer Gladis Deras; Kimberly Ortega, Field Deputy, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco Rapid Transit; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Robert Calix, Transportation Planning Manager, Metro; Danielle Soto, Senior Public Information Specialist, SCAQMD; Gregory Farr, Region Chief, Caltrans; Meredith Berkson, South County Director, PATH; Noe Martinez, CivicSpark Fellow; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Consultant Engineer/I-5 JPA Authority Engineer Yvette Kirrin; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Kekoa Anderson.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Austin.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Daniels, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer introduced CivicSpark Fellow Noe Martinez, who has just started his service under a program funded by the COG and the Southern California Gas Company. Mr. Martinez will be working for one year with the COG and member cities on issues relating to energy conservation and climate action planning.

Ms. Pfeffer presented a resolution which was drafted in light of the region's relative failure to receive substantial funding from the State's Cap and Trade Program. She stated that the resolution recites the COG's activities in the area of sustainability and states that the COG is ready to work with the State to ensure that Cap and Trade funds can be constructively invested in our region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Daniels, to approve the resolution. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Deputy General Counsel reported to the Board that the COG had received a Public Records Act request form the Kaufman Legal Group relating to its Measure M

informational activities. She said the firm did not identify whom they are representing, but other cities, as well as the South Bay Cities COG, had received similar requests.

Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan advised the Board that the I-5 Joint Powers Authority had issued its own Public Records Act request to the MTA. He said the Kaufman Legal Group represents Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, as well as Supervisors Solis and Ridley-Thomas.

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

Mr. Egan introduced three informational videos regarding Measure M that were produced by the COG's consultant team. He said the videos have been linked on the COG's website. He said he and the COG staff and legal counsel have been working very closely with the consultants to assure that the information campaign did not move into advocacy. He said the ads produced by the consultants had significantly increased traffic to the COG's website.

It was the consensus of the Board that a report be presented at the next meeting regarding which cities had contributed to the cost of the information campaign.

Member DuBois thanked the COG cities for sticking together and not letting differences of opinion to affect the relationships on the Board.

It was moved by Member Cassidy, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member Wilson, to authorize staff to submit an application for a SCAG Sustainability Planning Grant. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He referred the Board to a map showing the location of the Proposition 1 grant awards. He said the tier 1 projects are funded now and that tier 2 projects will be awarded as funds become available. He said 10 of the 20 tier 1 projects are located in the Gateway Cities, with a total award of \$13 million. He said 63% of the tier 2 projects are also located in the Gateway Cities.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Alatorre, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-710 Project Committee. She said that the current schedule calls for circulation of the revised draft EIR/EIS in the spring or summer of 2017. She reported that the Livability Initiative had been awarded a \$500,000 planning grant from Caltrans and that Metro would do the procurement for a consultant.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. She referred the Board to a graphic presentation which identified the first projects to proceed once the second decade Measure R funding commences in July 2019. She said Caltrans had convinced MTA to put all of the I-605 freeway interchanges into one corridor project. She said they are looking forward to a record of decision in 2019.

It was moved by Member Mendez, seconded by Member Alatorre, to receive and file the two freeway corridor reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said the Committee had received a video presentation regarding planned transit oriented development at the Green Line station in Lynwood. She gave a brief update on recent actions by the MTA Board of Directors.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Lima, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Meredith Berkson presented a report from PATH. She referred the Board to two handouts: a city level data report for the month of September of services rendered, and a flyer announcing the Homeless Summit scheduled for November 30th at the Cerritos Performing Arts Center. She said the target audience for the Summit is elected officials, city staff, and law enforcement. She said there would be two panel discussions: one on the County level programs and one on the Gateway Cities program.

It was moved by Member Zamora, seconded by Member Mendez, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Nancy Pfeffer presented a report from the Committee on Sustainability. She said she had examined the revised Cal EnviroScreen and that it does not change much from the previous version with regard to the Gateway Cities. She said three-quarters of the new funding for disadvantaged communities was being awarded to the cities of Fresno and Los Angeles. She said the new Cal EnviroScreen had removed 40% of the Bay Area's previously "disadvantaged communities" and that there could be pushback as a result. She said the COG is moving forward on climate action planning and a workshop is scheduled for November 29th at the COG offices.

It was moved by Member Tercero, seconded by Member Davis, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA. She gave an update on the construction progress on various interchanges and said that construction on the Valley View interchange would begin in November. She said a long-term impact on Florence Avenue would begin in one to three months in which only one traffic lane will be open in each direction. She said traffic will be redirected for several years. She reported that a \$3.8 million federal earmark will be used to kick-off the environmental work on the sector of the project north of I-605. She said Metro had agreed to pay for the full

environmental effort after the federal funds run out. She said they are aiming for a record of decision in 2020.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the Los Angeles County Division had been approached by the Metro Chair and Senator Mendoza regarding a restructuring of the Metro Board. She said the League has put together an online survey to see if cities would like to see a restructuring and how they would like it to look.

There was no report from SCAG.

Mike Kodama presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. He said the project is moving to the environmental stage. He said Eco Rapid Transit has partnered with Metro and the City of South Gate on a \$2 million federal planning grant. He said the Eco Rapid Transit Board had returned from a visit to Japan to review transit oriented developments.

Danielle Soto presented a report from the South Coast AQMD. She announced the November 16th Environmental Justice/Air Pollution Conference at the Los Angeles Cathedral Plaza.

Robert Calix presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council. He reported that the Council had voted to return to its previous 2:00 p.m. meeting time. He said last month the Council had been presented an overview of bus driver training. He reported that the Artesia station ticket kiosk has been relocated to assure better security.

It was moved by Member Mendez, seconded by Member Zamora, to receive and file the agency reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Tercero commended the Board and the President for navigating the politics surrounding Measure M.

Member Wilson wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

President Austin said it is important that we agree to stand together to advance the projects in our subregion.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn at 7:07 p.m.