

**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
October 4, 2017**

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

PRESENT: President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
First Vice President Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier
Second Vice President Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk
Immediate Past President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Member Cinde MacGugan Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Naresh Solanki, City of Cerritos
Member Oralia Rebollo, City of Commerce
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 Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach
Member Joaquin Lanuza, City of Maywood
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member Diane J. Martinez, City of Paramount
Member Bob J. Archuleta, City of Pico Rivera
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Maria Davila, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Joseph Martinez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member Herlinda Chico, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn

ABSENT: Member Fernando Vasquez, City of Downey
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Edwin Hernandez, City of Lynwood
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Member Lori Ann Guzman, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

ALSO PRESENT: Long Beach Councilmember Roberto Uranga; Signal Hill

Councilmember Larry Forester; Whittier City Manager Jeff Collier, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Bell Gardens Public Works Director Chau Vu; Downey Public Works Director Mohammad Mostahkami; Huntington Park Director of Community Development Sergio Infanzon; South Gate Senior Engineer Gladis Deras; Vernon Project Engineer Brandon Araujo; Lance Grindle, Principal Engineer, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Sharon Weissman, Board Deputy, Office of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia; Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco-Rapid Transit; Greg Farr, Region Chief, Caltrans; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Meredith Berkson, Regional Director, PATH; Mark Stanley, Executive Director, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy; Charles Wilson, Executive Director, Southern California Water Committee; Andres Molina, Government Relations Representative, WSP; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Kekoa Anderson.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Delgado.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by member Lima, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Charles Wilson, Executive Director of the Southern California Water Committee, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed California Water Fix. He explained that the project would transport fresh water from the Sacramento River-San Joaquin River delta north to the State Water Project. He said snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada mountains hit a choke point at the delta, but the Water Fix would alleviate the bottleneck with two new tunnels to move water under, rather than through, the delta chokepoint.

Mr. Wilson said there is a consensus that the delta is in decline, putting at risk the reliability of the existing State Water Project. He said the Water Fix would provide the flexibility to take water from the delta when it is plentiful. It would also allow time to fix the water quality in the delta from the risk of saltwater intrusion. He said the average cost to the taxpayer would be between one and three dollars a month. He said the Metropolitan Water District would be voting tomorrow on whether to go forward with the project.

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

Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Executive Director Mark Stanley presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He reported that the Proposition 1 grant funds had all been appropriated. He thanked the Board for its efforts to make sure that the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy received its fair share of Proposition 1 funds. He reported that Senate Bill 5 is a park/water bond that contains another \$37 million in funding for the Conservancy and \$30 million for the Los Angeles River if the governor signs the bill. Finally, he said AB 1558 creates an opportunity for the Conservancy and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to work on safety along the Los Angeles River.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said the Project Committee did not have a quorum at its September 28th meeting. He said Metro staff and consultants went ahead with their technical presentations and that he gave a presentation on the I-710 Livability Initiative.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He gave a PowerPoint presentation which provided an overview of the corridor programs, including five freeway interchange improvements, intersection hot spots, and corridor aesthetics. He said the Hot Spot program is consistent with other COG programs such as the Strategic Transportation Plan, complete streets master plans, the active transportation program, and watershed planning.

Member Garcia presented a report from the Transportation Committee. He said the Eco-Rapid Transit public/private partnership was moving forward as one of three public/private partnership projects approved by the MTA Board of Directors. He said the new security contract is having an impact on the Blue Line. He reported on the new tap card machines being installed, including one in Cerritos.

Meredith Berkson presented a report from PATH. She said the 50% increase in the number of homeless reported last month by LAHSA was specifically in SPA 7, not the entire COG region. She said there was actually only a 9% increase COG-wide. She said PATH was beginning to receive funding from Measure H. She said she had met with faith leaders in Artesia and Cerritos on how to serve the homeless in their area. She reported on the development of a 60-unit permanent supportive housing project in South Gate that is currently being developed. She asked Board members to please forward the names to PATH of any landlords that may have units available for housing participants in the program.

Member Sharif thanked PATH staff for coming out to Compton.

The Deputy Executive Director referred the Board to a letter that SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata had requested to be sent in support of SCAG's request that the greenhouse gas reduction target for the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, be set at 18%, rather than 21%, which Mr. Ikhata had said is unattainable.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by First Vice President Dutra, to send the letter in support of the 18% target in the 2020 RTP/SCS. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Chico, to receive and file the committee reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the governor has until October 15 to sign or veto bills that passed the legislature. She said he had signed SB 3, which places a veterans and affordable housing bond on the June 2018 ballot. She said the governor had not yet taken any action on SB 649 regarding small cells. She reported that the League has openings on its policy committees.

There was no report from SCAG.

Michael Kodama presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. He said they are in the process of starting the Transit Oriented Corridor project and will be working with cities.

There was no report from the South Coast AQMD.

Julia Brown report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council. She said the Sector Council had completed its FY17 review. Overall, there had been ten meetings with an average attendance of 2.7 members of the public. There had been no public hearings. Members attended the Mobility 21 conference and did take bus rides. She reported that there is now a 15-minute bus network for several of the lines. Ms. Brown announced Metro's Older Adult Transportation Expo scheduled for October 24th.

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

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Pineda announced that staff would be adding pictures of the board members to the COG website. He said he would like to plan a retreat to talk about the COG's goals and objectives. He said city managers and public works directors would also be invited.

The Board adjourned to closed session at 7:03 p.m.

The Board returned from closed session at 8:26 p.m.

The Deputy General Counsel announced that the Board had met in closed session, direction was given to staff, and no action was taken.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack M. Joseph, Acting Secretary