

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments 16401 Paramount Blvd.  
Paramount, California  
November 3 2021  
Zoom Conference

GCCOG Chair Cinde Cassidy called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. GCCOG Office Assistant Joel Arevalos took roll call.

#	Name	City/Agency	Present	Absent
1.	Tony Lima	Artesia	X	
2.	Cinde MacGugan-Cassidy (E)	Avalon (President)	X	
3.	Ali Saleh (E)	Bell (1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President)	X	
4.	Raymond Dunton (E)	Bellflower		X
5.	Maria Pulido	Bell Gardens	X	
6.	Naresh Solanki	Cerritos	X	
7.	Oralia Rebollo (E)	Commerce	X	
8.	Emma Sharif	Compton	X	
9.	Elizabeth Alcantar	Cudahy	X	
10.	Sean Ashton (E)	Downey	X	
11.	Luis Roa	Hawaiian Gardens	X	
12.	Marilyn Sanabria (E)	Huntington Park		X
13.	Cory Moss	Industry		X
14.	Ed Eng (E)	La Mirada	X	
15.	Ariel Pe	Lakewood		X
16.	Suely Saro (E)	Long Beach		X
17.	Roberto Uranga	Long Beach	X	
18.	Marisela Santana	Lynwood (2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President)	X	
19.	Heber Marquez	Maywood	X	
20.	Kimberly Cobos-Cawthorne	Montebello		X
21.	Margarita Rios	Norwalk	X	
22.	Vilma Cuellar Stallings	Paramount	X	
23.	Raul Elias	Pico Rivera		X
24.	Joe Angel Zamora (E)	Santa Fe Springs	X	
25.	Edward Wilson (E)	Signal Hill	X	
26.	Maria Davila (E)	South Gate (Immediate Past President)	X	
27.	William Davis	Vernon	X	
28.	Fernando Dutra (E)	Whittier	X	
29.	Luke Klipp (for Herlinda Chico) (E)	LA County BOS Office of Sup. Hahn	X	
30.	Kimberly Ortega	LA County BOS Office of Sup. Solis	X	
31.	Gabriela Cid	LA County BOS Office of Sup. Mitchell		X
32.	Sharon Weissman	Port of Long Beach	X	
		(E) Executive Committee	<b>Total =</b>	
			<b>23</b>	<b>9</b>

ALSO PRESENT: Nancy Pfeffer, Genny Cisneros, Marisa Perez, Karen Heit, Melani Smith, Mahogany Smith-Christopher, Joel Arevalos, Sandra Mora – COG Staff; Ivy Tsai, COG Attorney; Norman Emerson, Emerson & Associates; Michael Kodama, Eco-Rapid Transit; Danielle Soto, AQMD; Gregory Farr, Caltrans; Karen Lee, City of Artesia; Tyler Bonanno-Curley; Jose Eduardo Chavez, CRC; Guadalupe Camberos, Los Angeles County; Mark Dierking, Steven Lee – Metro; Nina Turner, Noel Hacegaba, Shana Espinoza – POLB; Sarah Patterson, SCAG; Luke Klipp, Office of Supervisor Hahn.

Chair Cassidy asked if there were any amendments.

There were no public comments at this meeting. Chair Cassidy read information related to providing public comments to the Board.

Under Matters from the President, Chair Cassidy thanked board members, staff, and consultants for working so hard.

Under Matters from Staff, Executive Director Nancy Pfeffer gave an update on COG activities. She stated that the Governor signed Senate Bill 4, the Broadband for All Act, in early October. The COG supported this bill, which was introduced by Senator Lena Gonzalez. Ms. Pfeffer commented about the recent developments related to the congestion at our ports. She shared that there was a call with senior staff from the Port of Los Angeles, focused on the community impacts of the current goods movement situation. She acknowledged Member Santana, COG Second Vice-President, for arranging this call.

Ms. Pfeffer stated that in October, the Port of Long Beach hosted members of the COG for a boat tour of the Port's facilities. She thanked Member Weissman for making the arrangements.

Ms. Pfeffer recapped actions by the Biden Administration to address the supply chain challenges at the Ports. This included a Supply Chain Disruption Task Force, which supported the move for the Ports to work 24/7 in order to address the bottlenecks.

Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order directing a number of state agencies to work with the Biden Task Force on near and long-term supply chain-related actions. The Governor and US Transportation Secretary Buttigieg announced that the State and US DOT would work jointly to “kickstart construction” of logistics-related projects including “railyard and truck electrification.”

Ms. Pfeffer stated that the Biden administration has a new Justice 40 policy that is supposed to direct 40% of federal infrastructure investments into underserved communities such as ours. The state's Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure, or CAPTI, expresses similar goals.

A couple of weeks ago, the COG Officers and Director Dutra had a Zoom call with Senator Lena Gonzalez, who chairs the Senate Transportation Committee. The COG asked for her help in following up on the recent joint request from Metro and the COG to the California Air Resources Board and California Energy Commission to deploy a substantial number of zero emission trucks to the I-710 corridor and the Department of Finance's list of proposed new budget expenditures relating to the supply chain situation, including "electrification of the goods movement system... and workforce development."

Ms. Pfeffer concluded with a brief summary of the I-710 Ad Hoc Committee. At the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Committee received an update on the Metro motion supporting zero-emissions clean trucks in the 710 corridor and the Port tour, as well as engaging in an exercise using prompts about their roles in the Corridor as residents and officials. COG staff will bring a draft of guiding principles for the Corridor to the Committee's next meeting on November 15th. That meeting will include public comment and Spanish translation.

Member Ahston expressed his appreciation for the Port of Long Beach tour arranged by Member Weissman.

Member Dutra commented that Member Weissman is trying to put together another tour in the spring.

Member Rebollo suggested a future tour be scheduled on a weekend.

Chair Cassidy moved to the Consent Calendar.

Chair Cassidy asked to approve the Consent Calendar Items A-U. Member Lima moved the item; Member Ashton seconded it. COG Staff Arevalos performed a roll call and the item was approved.

Chair Cassidy moved to Report A by Jose Eduardo Chavez, who gave a presentation on the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. Mr. Chavez gave an overview of the current timeline and stated that the Commission's deadline for preliminary maps is November 15<sup>th</sup>. He reviewed the weighted criteria that would be used when drawing the district maps. He reviewed the resources that the Commission has offered for users to draw maps and identify communities of interest. Mr. Chavez also stated that there is in person assistance available to provide input. Additional ways for the community to provide input include via website, email, mail, and map drawing tool.

Chair Cassidy thanked Mr. Chavez and asked if presentations could be made to individual cities. Mr. Chavez responded that the Commission could do this.

Chair Cassidy moved to Report B by Dr. Noel Hacegaba, Deputy Executive Director of Administration and Operations, who gave a report on the Port of Long

Beach Supply Chain Status and Solutions. Dr. Hacegaba gave a brief overview of current supply chain challenges and stated that the backlog could remain until Summer 2022 or early 2023. He stated that there was a record cargo volume in 2021 at the Port, and that there are vessels in port (102), anchor (76), and at berth (26) due to lack of capacity at terminals and warehouses. In response, the Port has activated vacant land to store containers such as STOR at Pier S and the Long Beach Container Terminal.

He stated that the Alameda Corridor moves 22% of all containers via train – one train replaces 1,200 trucks. The Port is also working with industry to expand operations. For example, the Port launched with TTI, a 24-hour cargo terminal to make it easier for trucks to access the facility. He stated that the Port hopes to expand hours of operation by working with the warehouses, distribution centers, and trucking companies to join them.

Dr. Hacegaba presented the 2020 air emission inventory including a 90% reduction in diesel particulate matter, as compared to 2005 levels, while container throughput increased by 21%. He stated that 100% of cargo handling equipment will be zero emissions by 2030, and 100% zero emission drayage trucks by 2035. The Ports received \$70 million in federal and state funds to demonstrate zero emission technology in the port, together with funding from partners. On November 8, the Harbor Commission will consider a \$10 per TEU fee on all loaded containers with exemptions for zero emission and low-NOx trucks. If approved, funds raised will be used to incentivize the purchase of zero emission and low-NOx trucks.

The Port has increased funding for community sponsorships under the leadership of the Harbor Commission, and encourages community organizations to apply twice per year. Dr. Hacegaba concluded with emphasizing the economic engine of the Port to the surrounding communities – job and business creation.

Member Weissman added that the Port sends the community sponsorship information to all the newspapers in the Southeast region. She asked that elected officials/city staff provide her with a list of non-profits in their communities. Member Weissman will make sure that the organization receives the press release directly. In addition, if a COG member has a City newsletter, she asks that the city consider including information about the community sponsorship program.

Member Dutra requested a copy of the presentation and asked if there was a link for the latest update on the Port's supply chain situation. Dr. Hacegaba responded that there is a link on the Port's website. There is also a 24/7 task force that focuses on these issues. He also acknowledged Members Weissman, Saro, and Uranga for their leadership on the COG.

Chair Cassidy moved to Report C by Metro Director Fernando Dutra, who gave an update on Metro activity. He commented on the proposed Metro Board motion on the I-710 trucks from last month. He met members from CEHAJ, the coalition who

has been active on public health issues related to the I-710. As a result, several changes were made to the motion. The leadership of Supervisor Janice Hahn further strengthened the motion. He acknowledged Luke Klipp and Jamie Hwang from Supervisor Hahn's staff for their work, and Supervisors Solis and Mitchell for their support.

The I-710 trucks motion would set aside \$50 million to fund a new clean truck program to replace diesel trucks with zero-emissions trucks. Metro will also conduct aggressive Federal and State advocacy to secure funding for this effort, including those 1,000 Zero Emissions trucks included in the FY22 California State budget. Metro staff will report back to the Board on this in February and May 2022, and he will update the committee afterwards.

Director Dutra thanked John Moreno and City Managers for their technical work on West Santa Ana Branch. Metro staff is finalizing a funding plan for West Santa Ana Branch this month and he stated that he hopes the plan will include options how to get the project built from Artesia to downtown Los Angeles. He will invite Metro staff to give a presentation on the funding plan at the next Transportation Committee meeting on December 1, and the Metro Board is expected to select a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) in January 2022.

He concluded with a brief update on the partners included in Metro's Fareless System Initiative (FSI). Director Dutra thanked LAUSD who signed an agreement and covers students from Bell Gardens, Maywood and South Gate. Other agreements being considered include -

- Whittier Union High School District - board will vote on November 9.
- El Rancho Unified School District - board will vote on November 16.
- Time Community Schools in Montebello is finalizing an agreement.
- Participation from Montebello Bus and Norwalk Transit.

He concluded with announcing that Long Beach Transit Board approved joining FSI at their meeting yesterday.

Member Weissman asked that Metro develops some sort of program to provide technical expertise for cities that don't have the staff or have the information needed to submit grant applications. Member Dutra responded that he would bring this issue up with Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins.

Chair Cassidy moved to Report D by COG Director of Regional Development Melani Smith, who gave a presentation on the Affordable Housing Digital Information Hub. Ms. Smith recapped the COG's prior funding for the creation of the hub on the COG website (<https://www.gatewaycog.org/initiatives-and-projects/housing-and-homelessness/housing>). The goal was to showcase case studies on housing projects in the region. The hub is organized in three priorities: planning, producing, and preserving housing.

Ms. Smith described each of the priorities in detail. She also highlighted a section of the hub that highlights case studies on housing innovation. Each case study includes its challenges, solutions, and the key components to success. Case studies included projects located in Signal Hill, Los Angeles, Bellflower, Long Beach and Lakewood.

The hub also includes a housing continuum section, which shows the range of housing options, from emergency shelters to homeownership and everything in between. Ms. Smith stated that each part of the housing continuum serves a unique need in the housing market. The housing continuum info graphic for the Gateway Cities aims to describe the overall housing condition and needs of residents in the subregion at different income levels and across various housing markets.

Chair Cassidy acknowledged the great work by Ms. Smith.

Member Sharif asked for copy of the presentation to share with her councilmembers as housing is a big issue. Ms. Smith responded that the information is located on the COG website and offered her help to walk through the information.

Member Wilson thanked Ms. Smith for her work and expressed gratitude that the Zinnia project was included.

Member Rios shared that Norwalk approved a 60-unit affordable housing project for veterans. She inquired how she could get this project included on the hub.

Member Saro thanked Ms. Smith for her work and shared that cities are finalizing their housing elements. She is interested in hearing what other cities are doing to address challenges cities are facing.

Member Ashton asked if she could attend the Eco Rapid board meeting and give this presentation.

Member Dutra acknowledged Ms. Smith's incredible work and inquired if the AMI information was from the recent Census. Ms. Smith responded that it was using HUD data and that the sources are cited at the bottom of the continuum page.

Ms. Pfeffer also acknowledged Ms. Smith's wonderful work on this and was pleased to have so much feedback and interest from COG board members.

Chair Cassidy asked for a motion to receive and file reports A-D.  
Member Ashton moved the item; Member Lima seconded it.

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of November 3, 2021

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Under Matters from the Board of Directors, Member Dutra asked Ms. Pfeffer if she could provide the redistricting maps for the Gateway Cities region to COG members.

Adjournment: Chair Cassidy adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Pfeffer, Executive Director