

# GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

## Transportation Committee

### **AGENDA**

*Wednesday, March 3, 2021*

**Note Start Time - 4:30 P.M. Meeting**

**Gateway Cities Council of Governments**

**MEETING REMOTE LOCATION: VIA ZOOM**

**Register Here:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_IASRLwX6OUCLmAfQDgIG0Q](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IASRLwX6OUCLmAfQDgIG0Q)

*OR JOIN BY PHONE:*

1.669.900.6833

*MEETING NUMBER:*

889.3890.1277

**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar**

AGENDA REPORTS AND OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE GATEWAY CITIES COG WEBSITE AT 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 purview, please provide written comments by 1:30 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 Transportation 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** – The limit for each speaker is three minutes unless otherwise specified by the Chair. Please use the “Raise Hand” feature on Zoom to indicate that you wish to make a comment. If you are calling in, please dial \*9 to use the “Raise Hand” feature.

**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 February 3, 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 Micro Program by Monica Waggoner, Administrative Analyst to Sr. Director, Special Projects, Metro

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

B. Report on Metro’s Proposed Fareless System Initiative by Doreen Morrissey, Principal Transportation Planner, Metro

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

C. 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, April 7, 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.

**VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**  
**Item A.**  
**Minutes**  
**February 3, 2021**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, February 3, 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, President Gateway Cities Council of Governments. Roll call was taken by COG staff.

#	Name	City/Agency	Present	Absent
1.	Maria Davila	COG Board President	X	
2.	Cinde MacGugan-Cassidy	COG 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	X	
3.	Ali Saleh	Board of Directors Member Appointed by the President		X
4.	Fernando Dutra	Board of Directors Member Appointed by the President	X	
5.	Emma Sharif	Board of Directors Member Appointed by the President		X
6.	Robert Garcia, <b>Chair</b>	MTA Board of Directors Rep.		X
7.	Luke Klipp	Office of Sup. Hahn	X	
8.	Martin Reyes	Office of Sup. Solis	X	
9.	Sarah Bauman	Long Beach Transit	X	
10.	Sharon Weissman	Port of Long Beach	X	
11.	Thaddeus McCormack	CM Steering Committee, Chair	X	
12.	Karen Lee	City Manager, City of Artesia		X
13.	Kevin Jackson	City of Long Beach		X
14.	Bill Pagett	Public Works Officer	X	
15.	Ed Norris	Public Works Officer	X	
<b>Total =</b>			<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy Pfeffer, Karen Heit, Joel Arevalos, Sandra Mora, Stephanie Cadena – COG Staff; Mahogany Smith – CivicSpark Fellow; Norman Emerson – Emerson & Associates; Lorry Hempe – City of Lynwood; Shannon Delong – City of Whittier; Tham Nguyen, Mark Dierking, Steven Lee – Metro; Andres Molina – WSP; Nina Turner, Theresa Dau-Ngo – Port of Long Beach; Beth Chow – City of Norwalk; Jamie Hwang - Supervisor Hahn's Office.

There was no public comment or matters from staff.

The Consent Calendar was approved.

Justin Ramirez, Metro Board Deputy to Mayor Robert Garcia, announced that Metro CEO, Phil Washington, would step down from his position effective May. Mr. Washington did not indicate what was he has planned next. Mr. Ramirez went on to present the highlights from the Board meeting including the allotment of \$24 million for the replacement of transit service cut back from the COVID service reductions.

Tham Nguyen, Project Director from the Metro Office of Extraordinary Innovation gave a report on the Traffic Reduction program. Ms. Nguyen began by discussing the reduction in traffic caused by COVID shutdowns but indicated that traffic would return if and when things go back to normal. She indicated that Traffic Reduction was an experiment that the MTA is considering as a congestion management tool to reduce traffic. She outlined the feasibility study questions determining where the program might work, how it could be implemented and how it could improve health, air quality and provide equity. Traffic congestion impacts everyone, driver and non-driver alike, particularly lower-income communities which are more likely to be located near major thoroughfares or freeways and feel the impacts of congestion. She mentioned upcoming public meetings that will discuss the issue. She invited the Committee to ask questions and participate in these meetings.

The feasibility study is a two-year process ending in a live demonstration in 2022. Fernando Dutra asked how would this impact disadvantaged communities, people who must drive to work sites. Ms. Nguyen indicated that part of the study is to look at impacts to service workers and other auto dependent jobs. She stated that these workers are being negatively impacted by congestion now and that offsetting this would be a goal. Sharon Weissman mentioned that subsidies may help with this issue as well as the time savings. She felt that disadvantaged communities could be helped with this program.

Nancy Pfeffer, COG Executive Director, commented on previous work done on the Expresslane program where low-income users were subsidized in the use of the lanes. She indicated that 8,000 households had taken advantage of this program. Pfeffer asked about the Metro internal equity tool that MTA has developed for such projects. Ms. Nguyen stated that the equity tool is being tried out on this project. She described the planned use of a "utility model" where meters are used to assess use and assistance needed.

Mayor Davila called on Lisa Rapp, Public Works Director - City of Lakewood, who represents the GCCOG at the MTA TAC meeting. She indicated that the meeting was held today and that a memo would be sent out. Ms. Rapp went on to discuss the MTA customer service satisfaction survey. She reviewed the areas that were to be addressed. She reviewed some of the strategies including unarmed security ambassadors to deal with the homeless issues on transit. There is a plan to secure elevator attendants to cut down on elevator incidents. All of these items are subject to funding being available.

Rapp indicate that she also made notes on the Traffic Reduction program and Access paratransit improvements – letting the user know where the van is and announcing arrival. The TAC was presented with the state and federal legislative slate.

Mr. Dutra asked if the NextGen micro-service impacts Uber and Lyft or is competing (is there a line missing here?)

said there could be an inquiry. GCCOG Executive Director Nancy Pfeffer asked if a customer was stranded, would the rider be offered a rideshare or taxi service ride. Executive Director Pfeffer indicated that there will be a presentation on Metro micro-service and these questions would be answered then. Mr. Dutra asked about the Metro bike program and how well it is managed as there are electric scooters left everywhere. Rapp said that Metro intends to provide space at stations for electric bikes and scooters. There is a bill allowing cities to regulate the placement of scooters in cities. Luke Klipp, Supervisor Hahn's office, stated that MTA does not regulate scooters except for providing parking at some rail stations. A Motion was made to receive and file the reports.

Luke Klipp, most recently from Mayor Garcia's office introduced himself as Supervisor Hahn's new Transportation Deputy. He also introduced Jamie Hwang, formerly from LA Councilman Herb Wesson's office. Ms. Pfeffer announced that there are virtual rooms open in the chat box for the Board of Directors to use for informal conversations before the Board meeting.

Motion to adjourn made at 5:25 pm.