

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Gateway Cities Council of Governments 16401 Paramount Blvd.
 Paramount, California
 AUGUST 3, 2022
 Zoom Conference

A recording of the Council of Governments Board of Directors meeting can be found at <https://youtu.be/yLQfRNqPOhw>

Presentations shared with the Board of Directors can be found [here](#).

GCCOG Chair Ali Saleh called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

GCCOG staff Ana Pantoja took roll call. A quorum was established.

#	Name	City/Agency	Present	Absent
1.	Tony Lima	Artesia	X	
2.	Cinde MacGugan-Cassidy (E)	Avalon (President)	X	
3.	Ali Saleh (E)	Bell (1 st Vice President)	X	
4.	Raymond Dunton (E)	Bellflower		X
5.	Liseth Flores	Bell Gardens	X	
6.	Bruce Barrows	Cerritos	X	
7.	Oralia Rebollo (E)	Commerce		X
8.	Emma Sharif	Compton	X	
9.	Elizabeth Alcantar	Cudahy		X
10.	Donald E. La Plante (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 nd Vice President)	X	
19.	Frank Garcia	Maywood	X	
20.	Angie Jimenez	Montebello	X	
21.	Rick Ramirez	Norwalk		X
22.	Vilma Cuellar Stallings	Paramount	X	
23.	Erik Lutz	Pico Rivera		X
24.	Joe Angel Zamora (E)	Santa Fe Springs		X
25.	Edward Willson	Signal Hill	X	
26.	Maria Davila (E)	South Gate (Immediate Past President)	X	
27.	Melissa Ybarra	Vernon	X	
28.	Fernando Dutra (E)	Whittier		X
29.	Herlinda Chico	LA County BOS Office of Sup. Hahn	X	
30.	Ben Feldman	LA County BOS Office of Sup. Solis		X
31.	Irma Galicia	LA County BOS Office of Sup. Mitchell	X	
32.	Sharon Weissman	Port of Long Beach	X	
		(E) Executive Committee	Total =	
			23	9

ALSO PRESENT: Nancy Pfeffer, Genny Cisneros, Marisa Perez, Ana Pantoja, Sandra Mora, Aileen Qin, Gilbert Saldate, Sumi Grant, Jessica Hale, Melani Smith, COG Staff; Ivy Tsai, COG Attorney; Shana Espinoza, Nina Turner, Christina Skacan, Theresa Dau-ngo, Noel Hacegaba, Port of Long Beach; Tyler Bonano-Curley, City of Long Beach; Thaddeus McCormack, City of Lakewood; Claudia Frometa, City of Downey; Jorgel Chavez, City of Bell Gardens; Sarah Patterson, SCAG; Danielle Soto, AQMD; Jack Symington, LA Cleantech Incubator; Arturo Gonzalez, San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy.

Chair Saleh asked if there were any amendments. There were none.

There were no public comments.

Under Matters from Staff, Executive Director Nancy Pfeffer shared SELACO WDB hosted a regional job fair in Artesia on July 27, attracting over 300 job seekers and over eighty employers, including some of our member cities. The COG partnered with PATH and Lease Up to provide a legal seminar discussing tenant and landlord protections, including provisions of the state's Covid-19 Rental Relief Act. The COG provided a letter of support for LA DEAL, the LA Digital Equity Action League, which is a program of the LAEDC focused on broadband. The COG supported LA DEAL's application to the California Public Utilities Commission to continue as the regional broadband consortia for Southern California.

Chair Saleh moved to the Consent Calendar, Items A - AA. Member Frometa moved the item; Member Pe seconded it. COG Staff Pantoja performed a roll call and the item was approved. Member Lavelle and Member Ybarra abstained.

Jack Symington, Sr. Program Manager, Transportation, Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI) gave Report A, An Investment Blueprint for HD Charging to Support Battery-Electric Drayage Along the I-710 Corridor. Mr. Symington gave a brief background of LACI, which focuses efforts in transportation, clean energy, and smart and sustainable communities. The primary transportation work is focused on electrification by the 2028 Olympics. LACI is creating an investment blueprint, funded by the California Energy Commission, to place battery electric truck charging infrastructure along the I-710 corridor. The goal is 40% zero emission trucks by 2028. The Ports hope to achieve 100% zero emission trucks by 2035. The focus is on three main items - drayage truck density, grid capacity for multiple truck depots, and overlay to CEHAJ (led by East Yards) to identify sites for potential truck charging facilities. LACI hopes to identify 4-6 partners who are interested. LACI will identify the total investment needed for 10--20 chargers at each site. As the goal is to achieve 100% zero emission drayage by 2035, LACI will use this data to identify the total investment needed in LA County. Mr. Symington asked for COG collaboration with permitting across cities and supporting funding applications. He also mentioned public entities such as the COG becoming a member with LACI.

Ms. Pfeffer asked about the timeline moving forward, Mr. Symington responded that LACI hopes to complete the Blueprint by December 2022, finalize sites by early September/October 2022, and identify costs by November/December 2022.

Director Lavelle asked if oceanic traffic was included in this effort. Mr. Symington responded that this is not currently part of LACI's work, but could be an opportunity in the future.

Dr. Noel Hacegaba, Deputy Executive Director, Administration & Operations Port of Long Beach gave Report B, Operations Update and ZE for the Port of Long Beach. Dr. Hacegaba gave a brief update on the Port's operations and the supply-chain shortage, including container volumes, impacts related to the pandemic, warehouse capacity, and driver shortage. To address these challenges, the Port provided excess storage capacity and expanded hours of operations. He gave an overview of the long dwell container fee, which would be used for containers stored greater than nine days, and rail dwell time. Dr. Hacegaba recapped the Port's rail expansion, including the Pier B On Dock Rail Facility. Other Port priorities presented were the Goods Movement Workforce Training Campus, Clean Air Action Plan, Zero emission trucks, and \$10 fee per TEU to accelerate zero emissions development. Dr. Hacegaba concluded with a discussion of the Port's Sponsorship program.

Member Garcia thanked Dr. Hacegaba for his presentation.

Member Santana inquired about containers stored on Caltrans properties. Dr. Hacegaba responded that the Port works with the State of CA via GoBiz, but no direct conversations with Caltrans. Dr. Hacegaba stated that he has heard about containers piling up in neighborhoods and cities, and has repurposed the maximum amount of property within the Port's boundaries.

Ms. Pfeffer asked about the Port's annual emissions inventory during the pandemic. Dr. Hacegaba responded that the Ports will be presenting this information this Fall to both the Commissions.

Items A-B were received and filed.

Nancy Pfeffer gave Report C, Regional Climate Collaboratives Proposal (RCC). The Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Program is a new state program to fund "ambitious measures to build climate adaptation and resilience through planning, research, capacity building, restoration, and sustainable infrastructure."

A key goal of the new program is to offer support to under-resourced communities like those in the Gateway Cities. These communities lack the capacity to pursue State funding (such as Transformative Climate Communities grants) for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects.

Ms. Pfeffer stated that developing an RCC will build on the COG's climate and energy programs, including the Climate Action Planning Framework, Urban Tree Canopy project, and engagement in SoCalREN, the regional energy network.

Ms. Pfeffer recapped the needs in the Gateway Cities and the timelines for the application. On July 15, 2022, COG staff submitted a non-binding pre-application in order to access technical assistance, should the Board approve the resolution to submit a full application for the Regional Climate Collaboratives program. The full application is due on October 7, 2022. Award recommendations will be adopted by the Strategic Growth Council on December 15th, 2022.

The program requires formation of a Collaborative Stakeholder Structure, shared vision, and creation of partnership agreements. Therefore, the COG staff proposes to apply as the Managing Stakeholder, in partnership with the Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) Collaborative, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office, Tree People, and Gateway Water Management Authority.

The initial area of focus for the Gateway Cities RCC will be the communities served by the SELA Collaborative (Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Lynwood, Maywood, South Gate and Vernon, and two unincorporated LA County communities of Florence/Firestone and Walnut Park). This strategy is expected to be successful because the SELA Collaborative has already created a strong foundation in these areas. The RCC initiative matches the Collaborative's priorities in implementing the 2021 SELA Agenda. The other member jurisdictions of the Gateway Cities COG may opt in to the RCC at any time.

A total of \$8.35 million will be available for competitive awards this funding round. Award amounts will range from \$500,000 to \$1,750,000 for three-year grant terms. The COG anticipates asking for the maximum grant award possible from the program.

Member Santana moved the staff recommendation to approve resolution authorizing the Executive Director to accept the technical assistance from the Strategic Growth Council and develop and submit a full application for the California Strategic Growth Council's Regional Climate Collaboratives Program by October 7, 2022; Member Cuellar-Stallings seconded it. COG Staff Pantoja performed a roll call and the item was approved. Member Lavelle abstained.

Under Matters from Board of Directors, Chair Saleh thanked the Board for their support and offered his contact information to his colleagues.

Under Matters from the President, Chair Saleh made the following appointments to the Committee on Homelessness: Member Rebollo, Member Zamora, Member Santana, Member Roa, and Member Saro. It was moved by Member Roa and seconded by Member Garcia. COG Staff Pantoja performed a roll call and the item was approved. Member Lavelle abstained.

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Under Election of Immediate Past Present, Director Frometa moved to elect Member Davila as Immediate Past President. It was seconded by Member Pe. COG Staff Pantoja performed a roll call and the item was approved. Member Lavelle abstained.

Adjournment: Chair Saleh adjourned the meeting at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Pfeffer, Executive Director