

**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

JUNE 1, 2022

Zoom Conference

A recording of the Council of Governments Board of Directors meeting can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwIEqFennWk>.

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

GCCOG Chair Cinde Cassidy 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 <sup>st</sup> Vice President)	X	
4.	Raymond Dunton (E)	Bellflower	X	
5.	Liseth Flores	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.	Claudia Frometa (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.	Todd Rogers	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.	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 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	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	

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<b>32.</b>	Bonnie Lowenthal	Port of Long Beach	X	
		(E) Executive Committee	<b>Total =</b>	<b>27</b>
				<b>5</b>

Chair Cassidy asked if there were any amendments. At the request of Member Dutra, Item D Report from Transportation Committee was moved to first report.

Under Matters from the President, Chair Cassidy reflected on Memorial Day and those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Under Matters from Staff, Executive Director Nancy Pfeffer provided an update on the COG’s final audit report for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. This is the third audit conducted by the COG’s new auditors, Moss, Levy & Hartzheim. Ms. Pfeffer expressed her gratitude to Genny Cisneros, the COG’s Administrative Director, and John Craig, who provides accounting services. She reported that there were no findings for the current year audit, and the findings from the prior audit have all been resolved.

Ms. Pfeffer provided an update on a recent trip to Sacramento. Metro’s CEO Stephanie Wiggins organized a Metro Board delegation trip to advocate for the “Golden Opportunity Package” represented by the very large state budget surplus. In each of the meetings with legislators, Ms. Pfeffer spoke in support of the “Golden Opportunity”, West Santa Ana Branch, and Gold Line East Side Phase 2. She also emphasized the importance of Justice40 and ensuring that grant criteria prioritize benefits to communities in need such as the Gateway Cities.

Ms. Pfeffer reported on the I-710 Ad Hoc Committee’s work, which will be discussed in detail later in the agenda. As the Committee concludes its ten months of work, Ms. Pfeffer acknowledged the work of Chair Alcantar, Vice Chair Santana, and all the members for their dedication and success in developing a strategy and a set of actions for the 710 Corridor. She also thanked Metro for their substantial support of the Ad Hoc Committee effort, including Julie Rush, Lynda Bybee, and MBI Media, and COG staff and consultants.

Chair Cassidy moved to the Consent Calendar, Items A - T. Member Dunton moved the item; Member Pe seconded it. COG Staff Pantoja performed a roll call and the item was approved.

Metro Director Fernando Dutra presented Report D, Report from Transportation Committee. He gave an overview of the May 2022 Metro Board meeting. At this meeting, the Board adopted the “No Build” alternative in the 710 South Environmental document, thus ending the expansion of the 710 freeway. He emphasized that the “No Build” alternative does not mean that there will be no relief for our communities. Metro will be developing the 710 Investment Plan in its place, which will focus on more sustainable, equitable, and multi-modal transportation projects and programs to move people and goods, as well as improving the quality of life for residents. Director Dutra co-authored Supervisor

Hahn's 710 motion to ensure that there is an immediate path forward to address the broader issues of air quality, goods movement, mobility, and safety for our residents. Director Dutra recognized Members Ali Saleh, Robert Garcia, Marisela Santana, Liz Alcantar, Suely Saro, and Oralia Rebollo for speaking in support.

Director Dutra reported that Metro adopted a \$8.8 billion budget for 2023. The budget includes planning funding for the West Santa Ana Branch and Eastside Phase 2, and for important improvements along the I-5, I-605, and I-105 Express Lanes. The Board approved a Contingency Plan for Law Enforcement if the Sheriff's Department fails to meet contractual obligations over the next 12 months. The current law enforcement contract was set to expire on June 30, but the Board has extended this until June 2023, if needed. The Board also approved the Subregional Equity Program guidelines. With this action, Metro will prepare a 5-year funding estimate for subregions in October of each year. These funds can be used on highway and transit capital projects and cities' 3% obligation for new Metro rail projects.

Jerry Caton, Gateway Cities COG, presented Report A, Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant Program for Broadband. Mr. Caton reviewed a \$50 million opportunity for technical assistance to local agencies, known as the LATA grant, to help local jurisdictions prepare broadband infrastructure. There is no local match required. He gave an overview of 2021 broadband investments for last-mile initiatives and supporting programs. He shared that 365,000 LA County households lacked broadband internet service. Many Gateway Cities residents do not have access to a fiber optic network. Mr. Caton gave an overview of the Golden State Fiber Optic Network and the Gateway Cities Broadband Master Plan Project.

Chair Cassidy asked for the presentation to be shared and about the fiber plans for the City of Avalon.

Ernesto Chaves, LA Metro, presented Report B, Olympics 2028 Mobility Concept Plan. Mr. Chaves provided an overview of Metro's Mobility Concept Plan (MCP) for the 2028 Games, the goals and vision for the Plan, and the methodology for selecting and refining the draft initial project list. He shared the goals and vision for the project, which includes enabling all ticketed spectators and workforce to travel to Games venues by public transit, walking or cycling. Mr. Chaves presented a map of the venues, including four venues in the Gateway Cities – Long Beach Waterfront, Arena, Belmont Pier, and Convention Center. Mr. Chaves recapped the process to create the MCP, how projects were included, and how they would be evaluated. Priority projects within the Gateway Cities include: A Line first-last mile and Mobility Hubs, Atlantic BRT, I-710 Integrated Corridor Management, C Line & Metrolink Norwalk Station Express Bus/BRT, and Metrolink Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Station improvements. He concluded by asking for Board Members to provide written feedback on the draft initial project list.

Member Liz Alcantar, I-710 Ad-Hoc Committee Chair, presented Report C, I-710 Ad Hoc Recommendations. Member Alcantar recapped how the Ad-Hoc Committee was created by the COG and invited public participation, including our Spanish-speaking residents. She recapped the guiding principles and recommended strategies, projects, programs, and policies detailed in Attachment B. She asked that the COG Board adopt the Ad-Hoc Committee's recommendations as follows:

1. The Committee recommends that the COG Board advance all the items on the list of Recommended Strategies, Projects, Programs, Policies to Metro's Task Force for consideration for inclusion in their discussions and recommendations.
2. The Committee recommends that the COG Board direct staff to develop a more detailed I-710 corridor advocacy plan, modeled on the West Santa Ana Branch Project Advocacy Plan, for use by the elected members, including recommended advocacy partnerships with other agencies and stakeholders.
3. The Committee recommends that the COG Board adopt the updated guiding principles, including principle U.

Member Rebollo thanked the Ad Hoc Committee members for their work on the Ad-Hoc.

Member Klipp thanked Ad-Hoc Committee Chair Alcantar and Vice Chair Santana for their leadership and acknowledged the incredible work by the Ad-Hoc committee.

Member Sharif thanked and comended the membership of the Ad-Hoc Committee.

Member Alcantar moved to approve the recommendation; Member Frometa seconded it. COG Staff Pantoja performed a roll call and the item was approved.

There were no items under Matters from Board of Directors,

Board moved to Closed Session at 6:58 pm. The Board recessed to closed session for one item, a performance evaluation of the Executive Director pursuant to Government Code section 54957.

Chair Cassidy reconvened the meeting and the General Counsel stated that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

Adjournment: Chair Cassidy adjourned the meeting at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Pfeffer, Executive Director