

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

4:00 P.M. Meeting

Gateway Cities Council of Governments
MEETING REMOTE LOCATION: VIA ZOOM

Chair - MTA Director, Whittier Councilmember – Fernando Dutra

Meeting called to order at 4:05 by MTA Director Councilmember Fernando Dutra – City of Whittier. Roll call was taken by self-introduction.

#		City/Agency	Present	Absent
1.	Cinde MacGugan-Cassidy	COG Board President	X	
2.	Ali Saleh	COG 1 st Vice President		X
3.	Maria Davila	Board of Directors Member Appointed by the President	X	
4.	Marisela Santana	Board of Directors Member Appointed by the President	X	
5.	Emma Sharif	Board of Directors Member Appointed by the President	X	
6.	Fernando Dutra, Chair	MTA Board of Directors	X	
7.	Luke Klipp	Office of Sup. Hahn	X	
8.	Ben Feldman	Office of Sup. Solis	X	
9.	Lisa Patton	Transit Operator/Long Beach Transit	X	
10.	Sharon Weissman	Port of Long Beach	X	
11.	Thaddeus McCormack	CM Steering Committee, Chair		X
12.	Ernie Hernandez	City Manager, City of Lynwood		X
13.	Tyler Bonanno	City of Long Beach	X	
14.	Bill Pagett	Public Works Officer	X	
15.	Ed Norris	Public Works Officer	X	
Total			12	3

OTHERS PRESENT: Nancy Pfeffer, Sandra Mora, Marisa Perez, Ana Pantoja, Karen Heit, Jessica Hale - GCCOG Staff: Norman Emerson – Emerson & Associates: Michael Kodama – Eco-Rapid Transit JPA: Nancy Michali – Michali Consulting, Raffi Hamparian, Ernesto Chaves, Frank Ching, Alex Amadeo, Michael Turner, Maritza Romero – LA Metro, Sara Baumann – Long Beach Transit; Viviana Gomez – Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn, Nina Turner, Christina Skacan, Theresa Dau-Ngo – Port of Long Beach, Wally Shidler – Metro Service Council, Charlie Hetland, JACOBS; Chris Thompson, LA

28; Vanessa Bautista, Rep for Senator Gonzalez Office; Kelli Pickler – City of Lakewood, Andrew Choie – Los Angeles County, Unidentified Caller ending in 6117.

There were no public comments or amendments to the agenda. There were no matters from staff.

The Consent Calendar was approved by roll call vote.

The first report was given by MTA Director of Highway Programs, Ernesto Chaves on the upcoming 2028 Olympics. Mr. Chaves introduced Chris Thompson, Senior Vice President for the 2028 Olympic organizing committee. The Committee is in the process of assembling a list of projects that can be in place in time for the 2028 Olympics. This involvement goes back to a Metro Board Motion to prepare for the 2028 Olympic games. A group of transportation agencies have joined together to work on Olympics mobility including advancing projects that will remain after the games. Mr. Thompson reviewed the Olympic venues and highlighted those that would be held in the Gateway Cities area. Mr. Thompson indicated that employees and participants would not be allowed to bring private vehicles to venues. He discussed the use of “mobility hubs” where spectators can congregate and access public transportation. There are three key mobility objectives for the games: moving participants, moving spectators with enhanced transit, and maintaining normal mobility.

Mr. Chaves discussed the 200+ draft project list that will benefit Olympics mobility. The 20x28 projects as well as the Inglewood Transit Connector are in the mix for Olympics. The MTA has hired consultants that have worked on other Olympic games. Mr. Chaves reviewed the screening process, projects ready by 2028, projects that will leave a positive impact after games, projects that provide benefits and enhance disadvantaged communities. He reviewed the modes of the projects but not the actual projects. First/Last Mile (FLM) Projects, the Atlantic Bus Rapid Transit project and Santa Fe Springs Station improvements are examples of projects that can service the Gateway Cities subregion. Mr. Chaves discussed the next steps for continuing to evaluate the project list and advance projects to construction.

Mr. Chaves requested help from the cities regarding Transportation Demand Management projects that cities might be planning as well as other projects that can be delivered. Director Dutra thanked Metro staff for the report and called for questions. Lisa Patton, Long Beach Transit (LBT), asked whether LBT and other Gateway Cities transit operators have been included in the transit planning process. She wanted to know when the operators will be asked to participate in items such as providing buses and operators. Mr. Thompson indicated that some of this planning has yet to occur and would be beginning soon. Director Dutra mentioned that operators have long range plans and need long lead times. Luke Klipp, Transportation Deputy for Supervisor Janice Hahn, cautioned that many of the improvements or funding may be going outside of the Gateway Cities subregion and that investment opportunities need to be vetted. Mr. Klipp went on to discuss the Florence Ave. Bus Improvement Program that would service Inglewood and

Los Angeles but terminates at the Gateway Cities boundary. Mr. Chaves replied that is why there is outreach and that he appreciated the comment. Ben Feldman, Transportation Deputy for Supervisor Hilda Solis, asked about the internal planning and working on the Olympics through the various Metro departments. Director Dutra asked how the information should be forwarded to the COG board. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Chaves agreed to return with this presentation to the full Board in either June or July at the request of the COG President. Councilmember Davila brought up the lack of projects in the SELA area and the need for greater inclusion.

Metro Board Director Fernando Dutra gave his report on the May MTA Board Meeting starting with an update on the Gold Line Eastside Phase 2. Not much has changed since the last update - Metro reviewed the latest anticipated funding sources. He outlined the 3% Local Contribution Motion which instructs the staff to update 3% Local Contribution criteria in both the Guidelines and the applicability of the 3% Contribution. The Motion asks for specificity as to what constitutes in-kind contributions. Mr. Dutra thanked the Councilmembers that called into the Board Meeting to comment.

Director Dutra continued with an update of the West Santa Ana Branch (WSAB) Advocacy program, reporting that the MTA requested \$1 billion in state funds to complete the funding plan. He reported that the cities need to insist that Metro use Value Capture (VC) for the benefit of community development, and perhaps meeting the 3% local contribution, instead of using VC to pay for construction of the line. He discussed the timing of the cut and cover feasibility report for the WSAB that is due in July. Director Dutra continued to relay the outcome of a very positive meeting with State Senator Bob Archuleta, who is closely focused on this project, and indicated that there is an upcoming meeting with Senator Maria-Elena Durazo. The WSAB alignment Mayors and Councilmembers signed a letter asking that the Justice40 Initiative be incorporated into the criteria for granting major infrastructure funding. He announced a September trip to Washington DC with Supervisor Hahn, Director Dutra and as many Councilmembers that can make the trip in support of fully funding this project. He indicated that he would like to have all the Master Cooperative Agreements signed before the COG goes to DC. There were no questions, and the item was received and filed.

Director Dutra called upon GCCOG Executive Director Nancy Pfeffer to make comments on the I-710 Ad Hoc Committee (AHC) process which is nearing its goal. She reviewed the I-710 process and the creation of the AHC. She reviewed the AHC Principles developed by the Committee. She reviewed the list of projects, which includes responsible agencies and cost estimates. Marisela Santana spoke thanking Ms. Pfeffer for her work with the AHC.

Director Dutra next called upon Raffi Hamparian and Michael Turner for their state and federal updates. Mr. Hamparian gave the federal update and reported on the MTA's due diligence on the earmark process. He mentioned that Congressmembers Roybal-Allard, Sanchez, Barragan, and Gomez support the Earmark for the project. He also mentioned that Senator Feinstein is on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Mr. Hamparian is

encouraged by the push to expend Capital Investment Grant (CIG) funds on projects where a Locally Preferred Alternative has been determined. He went on to discuss the new MEGA (National Infrastructure Grant Program), a \$5 billion grant program that the MTA staff is pursuing. The timing is critical in moving forward with this application. Director Dutra asked when the revised 5-year financial implementation plan will be ready. Mr. Hamparian believed it is almost finished.

Alex Amadeo gave the state report beginning with the state budget and potential investment in the Metro Golden opportunity offer for state funding participation. They then gave an update on AB 2339 which allows for more local contracting. They reported on the Sen. Wiener bill that will continue CEQA exemptions for transit projects in the public right of way (ROW). Lisa Patton asked if other agencies have the ability to do job-order contracting.

Director Dutra called upon Ed Norris to give the MTA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) report. Mr. Norris reported that MTA has appointed a new pedestrian coordinator. He reported on the Active Transportation Program (ATP) application process and the due dates. The TAC received a presentation on the Metro FY23 Budget and the funding for different modal categories and programs. He discussed the Metro public participation plan which is out for review. There were no questions on the Metro TAC report. All reports were received and filed. Port of Long Beach Commissioner Sharon Weissman reported that WSAB rail ROW negotiations were underway with POLA and POLB. She also reported on the completion of on-dock rail projects. Commissioner Weissman was asked to give her report under matters from the Transportation Committee at the full Board. Luke Klipp brought up the Florence peak hour Rapid Bus Line which ends at the Gateway Cities boundary.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm.