

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Sierra Room, Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts
12700 Center Court Drive
Cerritos, California
December 3, 2014**

Second Vice President Saleh called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

PRESENT: President Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
First Vice President Rosa E. Perez, City of Huntington Park
Second Vice President Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Immediate Past President Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos
Member Janna Zurita, City of Compton
Member Fernando Vasquez, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo O. Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Tim Spohn, City of Industry
Member Andrew Sarega, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Salvador Alatorre, City of Lynwood
Member Jack Hadjinian, City of Montebello
Member Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate

ABSENT: Member Cinde Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member Jack Guerrero, City of Cudahy
Member Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Member Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach
Member Oscar Magana, City of Maywood
Member Jay Sarno, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Owen Newcomer, City of Whittier
Member Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Representative from Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member Doug Drummond, Port of Long Beach

ALSO PRESENT: Cerritos Mayor Pro Tem Carol Chen; Downey Mayor Pro Tem Luis Marquez; South Gate Council Member William De Witt; Rolling Hills Estates Mayor Judy Mitchell; Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Santa Fe Springs City Manager Thaddeus McCormack; Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing; Bell Gardens Assistant City Manager John Oropeza; Cerritos Senior Assistant City Manager Vince Brar; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Pico Rivera Associate Engineer Gladis Deras; Compton First District Liaison Ernesto Villasenor; Bianca Villanueva, Government Relations, Port of Long Beach; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Marisa Perez, Board Deputy to SCAQMD Board Member Judy Mitchell; Grace Kast, Executive Director, Gateway Water Management Authority; Andres Molina, Government Relations Representative, Parsons Brinckerhoff; Raja Mitwasi, Vice President, TRC; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Kekoa Anderson; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Second Vice President Saleh.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Immediate Past President Lima, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Grace Kast, Executive Director of the Gateway Water Management Authority, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the activities of the Authority. She described the Authority as the "sister" agency to the COG on water matters, formed by ten cities in 2007, and whose membership now extends to 24 COG cities and two water agencies. She said the Authority is a fiduciary and contractual agency on behalf of the Gateway Cities region's cities, watershed groups, and regional grant programs, with one of its core goals to coordinate and communicate with the Gateway Cities COG on critical watershed issues and programs.

Ms. Kast recounted past regional projects of the Authority, including the Los Angeles River Trash Reduction Project, which retrofitted 11,560 catch basins; the Regional 20X2020 Report submitted to the State to meet conservation regulations; and development of a Regional Water Management Plan. She further discussed the Authority's assistance to disadvantaged communities within its membership.

Judy Mitchell, Mayor of Rolling Hills Estates and Member of the Board of Directors of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, presented an update on the District's activities. She introduced Marisa Perez as her Board Deputy. She reported that she also represents the AQMD on the California Air Resources Board.

Mayor Mitchell said that the South Coast and San Joaquin Valley are the only two basins that do not attain federal air quality standards. The two San Pedro Bay ports, which carry 40% of the nation's cargo, place a big burden on air quality, but are an important economic generator. She reported that mobile sources account for about 80% of air quality issues, but the District only has authority over stationary sources. However, the District has developed programs to assist with regard to mobile sources. She said the challenge is with diesel trucks because they have very long lives. The District has provided incentives for fleet owners to retrofit their trucks.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Lima, seconded by First Vice President Perez, to receive and file the reports from the Gateway Water Management Authority and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The motion was approved unanimously.

South Gate Council Member William De Witt addressed the Board regarding the water agencies operating in the region. He said he has been on the South Gate City Council since 1978 and has watched how the three regional water agencies have grown from a small body with a single general manager to become much larger and complex. This has resulted in them suing each other as well as the cities. He said this has been very costly to cities and purveyors of water.

Council Member De Witt recommended looking again at the concept of once again joining these agencies together with a governing structure similar to the sanitation districts. He said he would like the city managers to look at this and come back with recommendations. He said he is aware that a change would likely require state legislation and a vote of the people. He said the issue of stormwater runoff should be part of the study.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Hurtado, to refer this matter to the City Managers Steering Committee to study and come back with a recommendation. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said the re-circulated EIR is planned for submission for public review in early 2016. He said a lot of work is going on to get to that point. Traffic model work has been the focus for a long time, but is coming to a conclusion. He said the focus areas are on the north and south ends to consolidate the project footprint's elements. He reported that a series of workshops will take place in the next month to understand how the concerns about Community Alternative 7 can be addressed.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said five major projects have been broken out that encompass the entire footprint of the corridor. Three project study reports have been completed and are moving to the preliminary engineering/environmental review stage. The other two projects are still in preliminary scoping. He reported that 25 intersection “hot spots” improvement projects are moving forward.

There was no report from the Transportation Committee.

There was no report from PATH Partners.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Second Vice President Saleh, to receive and file the committee reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the I-5 Joint Powers Authority.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

There was no report from SCAG.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

There was no report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council.

There were no reports from the Board of Directors.

President Tercero wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Happy Holidays.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:18 p.m.