

**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
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
16401 Paramount Boulevard
Paramount, California
June 1, 2016**

President Saleh called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: President Ali Saleh, City of Bell
First Vice President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Second Vice President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
Immediate Past President Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Lilia Leon, City of Commerce
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy
Member Luis Marquez, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Edward Eng, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach
Member Salvador Alatorre, City of Lynwood
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier
Member Joseph Martinez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member Tracy Egoscue, Port of Long Beach

ABSENT: Member Cinde MacGugan-Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member George Ray, City of Cerritos
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Ricardo Villarreal, City of Maywood
Member Mike Mendez, City of Norwalk
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Member Rick Velasquez, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe

ALSO PRESENT: Cerritos Councilmember Carol Chen, President, Los Angeles County Division, League of California Cities; Saeed Ali, Office of Senator Tony Mendoza; Norwalk City Manager Mike Egan, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Bell Gardens Public Works Director Chau Vu; Downey Director of Public Works Mohammad Mostahkami; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Lakewood Public Works Director Lisa Rapp; Lakewood Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Jonathan Kraus, Office of Long Beach Councilmember Al Austin; KeAndra Dodds, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Elizabeth Alcantar, Field Deputy/Caseworker, First District, Los Angeles County; Steve Forster, City Engineering Manager, Cities of Bell Gardens and Montebello; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; David Yale, Managing Executive Officer, Planning, Programming, and Grants, Metro; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Meredith Berkson, PATH; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Eco Rapid Transit; Susan Price, Director of Care Coordinator, County of Orange; Libby Bradley, Junior Account Coordinator, Cerrell Associates; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Consultant Engineer and I-5 JPA Executive Director Yvette Kirrin.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Daniels.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

President Saleh made a presentation to Susan Price, who recently resigned her position as Community Health Bureau Manager for the City of Long Beach and a member of the COG's Committee on Homelessness to take the position of Director of Care Coordinator for the County of Orange. President Saleh thanked Ms. Price for her many contributions to the Gateway Cities Homeless Action Plan. Ms. Price thanked the Board and said homelessness is a problem that needs to be managed. First Vice President Austin thanked Ms. Price for her tremendous service to the City of Long Beach.

It was moved by Member Aceituno, seconded by Member Lima, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously, with Member Daniels and Member Hurtado abstaining.

President Saleh declared a recess at 6:09 p.m. for the purpose of taking the annual photograph of the Board of Directors.

President Saleh reconvened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Member DuBois reported that the proposed sales tax ballot measure will be taken to the MTA Board of Directors on June 23rd. She said the next iteration of the proposed spending plan will come out on June 10th. She said, since the COG Board would not meet again before the 23rd, she would ask the City Managers Steering Committee to respond on behalf of the COG to the revised spending plan with regard to how it answers the concerns raised in the previous letter from the COG to the MTA Board of regarding the proposed ballot measure.

Transportation Deputy Karen Heit gave a PowerPoint presentation which summarized the major points raised in the COG's letter:

- 2nd and 3rd decade Measure R transit projects be formally accelerated and not be superseded by new PBM projects;
- Recently adopted performance metrics be applied solely to PBM projects and not retroactively to Measure R projects;
- An additional 1% be allocated to Metrolink for service improvements and long-term capital projects;
- Remove the 3% local contribution requirement to major transit projects, instead encouraging local jurisdictions to invest in community infrastructure;
- Support the addition of the concept of "Green Complete Streets" to the 2% active transportation carve-out;
- Increase local return to cities to 25% and investigate a new formula that does not rely solely on population;
- Construct the West Santa Ana Branch/Eco-Rapid Transit project in two consecutive phases;
- Commence construction on both alignments for the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Phase II within the 2029-35 timeframe;
- Accelerate the Metro Green Line Norwalk Extension project development through coordination and potential funding with the State;
- Accelerate development and implementation of the I-710 Corridor Improvement Project;
- Structuring the I-5 corridor goals and objective into logical segments to achieve a project definition by completing the environmental review process by 2019.

Member DuBois said the promise of Measure R is not being kept by the application of performance measures rather than by how the Measure R projects were judged at the time Measure R was approved. She said we should ask for a 20% local return, which is the same as the request from the South Bay Cities COG. Member DuBois asked for comments from Downey Public Works Director Mohammad Mostahkami and Lakewood Public Works Director Lisa Rapp regarding today's meeting of city managers and public works directors with MTA Chief Executive Officer Phil Washington and David Yale, MTA Managing Executive Officer for Planning, Programming, and Grants.

Lisa Rapp said they had worked from an agenda led by Carson City Manager Ken Farfsing. She said the meeting had not resolved any concerns. She said Phil Washington said MTA was willing to consider “tweaks” and that they could look at increasing local return over time. Mohammad Mostahkami said MTA was looking at incrementally increasing local return, but cities had recommended more local return up front because of increasing costs.

Member Hernandez asked what minimum dollar amount of local return would be guaranteed to cities. Karen Heit responded that at the Transportation Committee meeting \$350,000 and \$500,000 were discussed as minimum amounts.

Member DuBois said a project recommendation is that the West Santa Ana Branch be constructed in two consecutive phases beginning in 2019-20. David Yale responded that MTA is looking at doing the first phase in 2021-22 without federal dollars so that only CEQA would apply in order to move the project along. He said it would be very challenging to move up the second phase by four years.

Member Wilson asked what the purpose of this discussion is. Member DuBois responded that it is to come to some accord so as to serve as direction to the City Managers Steering Committee.

Member Wilson said we should come up with our own priorities because we can’t come to an agreement on ranking all of the MTA projects.

Karen Heit said these are not competing priorities; these are our own voted on and approved priorities.

Member Lima said if we accept a four-year delay in the phases of the West Santa Ana Branch project it could very well turn into eight years.

It was the consensus of the Board to direct the City Managers Steering Committee to review the revised expenditure plan for the proposed MTA ballot measure and to determine how it meets the priorities outlined in the COG’s letter to the Board.

President Saleh announced that the item related to the Cap and Trade legislation had been pulled by staff to be brought back at a later date.

Saeed Ali, Office of Senator Tony Mendoza, addressed the Board regarding SB 1472, which would create additional seats on the MTA Board of Directors. He said Senator Mendoza is very unhappy with the priorities of the MTA Board. He said the Board is not keeping the promises made in Measure R and that new projects are coming out of whole cloth. He said 54% of funds from the ballot measure go to the City of Los Angeles and 72% of the new tax revenues would go to the City of Los Angeles.

Mr. Ali referred the Board to a letter from Senator Mendoza which stated that he introduced SB 1472 to address the issue of the disparity of representation on the MTA

Board of Directors. He said the current 13-member board is heavily weighted to the City of Los Angeles, with only four representatives from the other 87 cities in the county. He said 21 is the median number of board members on county transportation commissions in the SCAG six county region. He said he would appreciate any recommendations regarding SB 1472 be presented to Senator Mendoza by July 15th.

Member Marquez said the bill should take into consideration that the City Selection Committee may be dissolved.

It was moved by Member Marquez, seconded by Member Wilson, to support SB 1472 and for the COG to send letters to our state representatives stating the COG's support. The motion was approved with Member Martinez voting no and Member DuBois abstaining.

Member Uranga presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said the said the grant applications received under the Proposition 1 grant program had been divided into two tiers.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee and the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. She said the I-710 Project Committee is scheduled to meet at the end of this month. She reported that the SR-91/I-605/I-405 TAC had reviewed the proposed MTA Measure R guidelines for corridor "hot spots" projects and had recommended that project eligibility be extended to the entire corridor study area and not limited to areas within one mile of a freeway.

There was no report from the Transportation Committee.

Meredith Berkson presented a report from PATH. She said city level data had not yet been released from the 2016 Homeless Count. She said PATH would be reinstating the local coordinating alliance (LCA) meetings. She said PATH had responded to two RFPs, one from LAHSA and one from the United Way.

The Executive Director said it is important for cities to send their representatives to the LCA meetings.

There was no report from the Committee on Sustainability.

It was moved by Member Sharif, seconded by Member Hernandez, to receive and file the committee reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 Joint Powers Authority. She said the Rosecrans interchange was 71% complete, Imperial 60%, Carmenita 75%, and Florence 25%. She said the Valley View project had recently been awarded for construction.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the Governor's "Buy Right" housing proposal would override the local approval process and

encouraged cities to call their legislators this week to express their concerns. She reported that budget negotiations must be completed by the 15th of the month.

There was no report from SCAG.

There was no report from Eco-Rapid Transit.

There was no report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

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

It was the consensus of the Board to receive and file the agency reports.

Member Dunton congratulated President Saleh on his year as President of the Board.

There were no matters from the President.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Powers, Secretary

