

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CTITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITEE
Chair - MTA Director, Long Beach Mayor - Robert Garcia**

Gateway Cities COG Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723
February 7, 2018

The Meeting was called to order 4:01 pm, roll call was taken by self-introduction:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Robert Garcia – City of Long Beach/MTA Board Director, Fernando Dutra – City of Whittier, Al Austin – City of Long Beach, Christian Hernandez – City of Cudahy, Mayor Maria Davila – City of South Gate, Jose Pulido – City Manager – City of Cudahy, Young-Gi Harabedian – Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn, Debra Johnson – Long Beach Transit, Jeff Collier – City Manager – City of Whittier, Bill Pagett – City of Lakewood, Mohammad Mostahkami – City of Downey,

OTHERS PRESENT: Sharon Weissman – Transportation Deputy, Nancy Pfeffer, Karen Heit - GCCOG staff, Nina Turner, Local/Regional Government Relations – Port of Long Beach, Jerard Wright, Policy Manager – Bizfeed, Tracy Beidelman – Manager, Government Relations – Long Beach Transit, Andres Molina – Deputy, Government Relations – WSP, Lance Grindle, Principal Engineer – LA County Dept. of Public Works, Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager - Metro

There were no amendments to the Agenda, matters from staff or public comment.

Mayor Garcia began by passing out the agenda for the Transportation Summit Agenda and discussing the role in guiding transportation decisions for the COG. This initial summit will serve as a kick-off for all MTA transportation related activities. Phil Washington and Carrie Bowen will be participating and will give an overview of Metro and state projects. There will be question and answers on the various transportation projects and programs. The goal is trying to fit in a briefing on every subregional project. Mayor Garcia intends to introduce Transportation Committee members and discuss what is important to the membership. Chair Garcia is suggesting the TC meet every other month and have the larger congresses on a quarterly basis. Mohammad Mostahkami raised the issue of items that cannot wait until every other month. Mayor Garcia explained that there will be the ability to call a special meeting, otherwise the meetings will be held every other month. There is potential to host the meeting in different cities. A Motion was passed to set Transportation Committee meetings every other month. The next quarterly event is set to focus on the Eco-Rapid Transit/West Santa Ana Branch Light Rail Corridor Project.

Mayor Garcia has asked that MTA present an item on the Eco-Rapid Transit/West Santa Ana Branch Light Rail Corridor Project at the Metro Board Meeting to be held March 1. This will be an important meeting as there are a variety of northern alternatives that may or may not reach LAUS. He cited public input from the Little Tokyo community not wanting to endure more construction.

Mayor Garcia went over Board actions from previous meetings including a new low-income fare and the 28x28 project acceleration plan. This aspirational plan intends to accelerate 28 transportation projects by 2028 in time to host the '28 Olympic Games. He also discussed a new digital "next" train announcement sign. He asked for questions about any of the reports. Young-Gi Harabedian spoke about preserving the integrity of the Southern Alignment of the Eco-Rapid/WSAB alignment and still adding new northern alternatives to the environmental study. Harabedian wants to strategize what the message is and how to maintain the alignment concepts consistent with the communities' needs. A motion to receive and file was made.

Nancy Pfeffer, COG Director, gave an introduction to the MTA Measure M Administrative Guidelines and how the process is working. Karen Heit, COG Transportation Analyst, gave an overview of the activities of the PAC and the comments submitted for the Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) Administrative Guidelines and the 3% transit contribution. She talked about the aggressive timeline for adoption of the additional policies and the willingness of the MTA to be flexible enough to allow for contributions to be shared between cities on a given alignment.

Mayor Garcia introduced Kristine Guerrero from the League of Cities who presented the challenge to the gasoline sales tax measure - SB-1. She discussed the fees and the lack of protection for SB-1 and the vehicle excise fee. She asked for support for Prop. 69 protecting the funds from being raided to supply the general fund. She also discussed the upcoming ballot measure to repeal SB-1 and require voter approval for any future transportation funding. She asked the COG to support Prop. 69 and oppose the repeal of SB-1. A discussion ensued about the reasons for seeking the repeal of SB-1, most of which are political. Deborah Johnson announced that California Transit Association voted to oppose the repeal of SB-1. Motion was made approved to support both Measures.

Heit gave a report requesting the Transportation Committee recommend approval of the funding from the earmark exchange that the MTA offered the previous year. The MTA exchanged expired and soon to expire federal earmarks for Prop. C 25% funds. The GCCOG has almost \$750,000 in funds to exchange. Nancy Pfeffer introduced the project and there was discussion about the potential for using this money to advance corridor projects that are consistent with the requirements of Prop. C 25%. A more detailed allocation of funding will be forthcoming as the corridors are reviewed.

A quorum was reached and the minutes were approved.

The Meeting Adjourned at 5:53

