

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Cerritos Senior Center
12340 South Street, Cerritos
December 3, 2003**

President Colonna called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

President Colonna provided Words of Wisdom.

President Colonna requested that all persons state their name and organization. Roll was taken in that manner.

PRESENT: President Frank Colonna, Member Gloria Kappe, Member Bonnie Lowenthal, Member Keith McCarthy, Member Larry Nelson, Member Greg Nordbak, Member Beatrice Proo, Member Betty Putnam, Member Gordon Stefenhagen.

ABSENT: Vice President Edward Wilson, Member Gene Daniels, Member Hector De La Torre, Member Don Knabe, Member Wayne Piercy.

ALSO PRESENT: Board of Directors Member John Pratt, Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Lakewood Planning Director Chuck Ebner, Lynwood Public Works Manager Paul Nguyen, Pico Rivera staff Raphael Guillen, SCAG Executive Director Mark Pisano, League of California Cities Regional Representative Patricia Alvarez-Sahagún, Fannie Mae, Los Angeles Partnership Office Director Patricia Neal, SCAG Lead Regional Planner for Production of Housing Joseph Carreras, Frank Osgood, Ray Maekawa, GCCOG legislative advocate Allynn Howe, GWCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers, GCCOG Director of Program Development Deborah Chankin, GCCOG Assistant Legal Counsel Ralph Hanson.

City Manger Steering Committee Chair Ken Farfsing led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

One public comment was received from Patricia Alvarez-Sahagún, Regional Representative, League of California Cities. Ms. Alvarez-Sahagún announced that the League will hold a press conference on the steps of the State Capitol on Wednesday, December 11, 2003. The press conference will be to gain support for three bills designed to ensure the backfill of reduced vehicle license fee revenues for local government. Mayors and Councilmembers are encouraged to attend.

It was moved by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Nordbak to approve the consent

calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Director Richard Powers introduced the Reports. Mr. Powers advised that the Council of Governments has convened a housing task force which is actively deliberating on housing needs in the subregions. The two following reports by Mr. Carreras of SCAG and Ms. Neal of Fannie Mae will discuss housing challenges and solutions in the region.

Joseph Carreras, Lead Regional Planner, Production of Housing, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) gave a presentation on housing demand and production issues in Southern California. He discussed the growth in population over the past decade and the housing needs of new immigrants and so-called “echo boomers,” the young adult children of the baby boomers. He provided data showing that construction starts declined dramatically during the recession of the 1990’s and did not fully return with the recovery. He also showed that population growth continues to outstrip housing production and household size continues to increase in the region.

Member Nelson asked how the population growth forecasts were formulated. Mr. Carreras responded that birth, death and immigration rates were all factored in. He added that two-thirds of the region’s anticipated growth comes from natural increase.

Member McCarthy noted that the COG’s Transit Village bill to stimulate transit oriented housing development did not emerge from committee in the last legislative session, but that should it emerge in the coming session, everyone’s support would be appreciated. Member McCarthy commented that one reason for the decline in new multi-family housing is thought to be the proliferation of litigation against developers. Mr. Carreras agreed that this had been an issue and also noted that in the City of Los Angeles one-half of all multi-family produced in the 1990’s was supported by tax credits.

President Colonna presented Mr. Carreras with a gift as a token of the COG’s appreciation for his presentation.

Patricia W. Neal, Director, Fannie Mae, Los Angeles Partnership Office made a report on Fannie Mae’s potential to contribute to housing solutions in the region. Ms. Neal reported that Fannie Mae has a \$50 billion Affordable Housing Investment commitment for Los Angeles and Orange Counties of which \$30 million has been expended to date. She explained that Fannie Mae does not deal directly with consumers, but rather is part of the secondary market, buying home loans rather than making them. Fannie Mae impacts the housing market through partnerships with lending institutions and can also work in partnership with communities to develop housing products and identify sources of capital. Ms. Neal explained her office’s charter to serve low and moderate income, minority and special needs populations and underserved communities. They also have low down payment programs, employer housing and rehabilitation loans. She encouraged cities to contact her office to explore potential partnerships.

President Colonna presented Ms. Neal with a gift as a token of the COG’s appreciation for her presentation.

It was moved by Member Putnam and seconded by Member Nordbak to receive and file both Mr. Carreras' and Ms. Neal's reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Colonna advised that the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy did not meet in November and there would be no report.

Executive Director Powers reported from the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee (OPC). Mr. Powers reported that the new community participation process is underway with the formation of community level Tier 1 committees which are beginning to meet with the assistance of the professional facilitator and the formation of the corridor level Tier 2 committee forthcoming. Mr. Powers also reported that the OPC will be considering a 710 safety initiative that is the result of consultations with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol and will address safety improvement measures that can be undertaken in the short term.

It was moved by Member Nordbak and seconded by member Nelson to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Proo reported from the Transportation Committee. Member Proo reported that the Transportation Committee received a presentation from SCAG on its Regional Transportation Plan and provided initial comments. She noted the discussion on the need for the development of consensus within the SCAG region. Member Proo urged the members to provide their comments on the RTP to COG Transportation Advisor Don Camph before the January meeting. Action will have to be taken at the January meeting on the COG's comments in order to meet the January 16, 2004 comment deadline. Member Proo also announced that the COG will host a SCAG "Compass" growth visioning meeting on January 7, 2003, at 4:00 p.m. at the Cerritos Senior Center immediately prior to the meeting of the COG Executive Committee. It was moved by Member McCarthy and seconded by Member Nelson to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Colonna called for discussion regarding the SCAG Regional Council. Member Proo reminded Members to submit their comments on the Regional Transportation Plan.

President Colonna called for discussion regarding SCAG policy committees. There was no discussion.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors Members.

There were no matters from staff.

Adjournment:.. The meeting of the Executive Committee was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.