

**Transportation Committee Minutes of
November 3, 2004**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Cerritos Senior Center 12340 South Street, Cerritos
November 3, 2004

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Chair Beatrice Proo at 4:40 p.m. Roll call was taken by self-introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT. Beatrice Proo, Chair; Gene Daniels; Ken Farfsing; Robert Hughlett; Marina Sueiro for Fred Latham; Bill Pagett; Jaime Becerra for James Parker.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT. COG President Ed Wilson; COG Vice-President Greg Nordbak; Desi Alvarez; Don Knabe; Geraldine Knatz; Greg Korduner; Keith McCarthy.

OTHERS PRESENT. Richard Powers, Gateway Cities COG Executive Director; Jack Joseph, Gateway Cities COG; Deborah Chankin, Gateway Cities COG; Wally Shidler, MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Governing Council; Bonnie Lowenthal, MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Governing Council; Alex Clifford, MTA; Jeannine Critie, Office of Frank Colonna; David Hershenson, MTA; Ray Maekawa, MTA; Nancy Michali, MTA; Sharad Mulchand, MTA.

A quorum was not present.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chair Proo.

Report by Nancy Michali, MTA Director of Service Performance and Analysis. Ms. Michali presented an update on "Metro Connections" Bus Service Restructuring. Ms. Michali stated the goal is to complete implementation of the new service structure by the year 2010. The new service structure will need to accommodate more transit dependent persons as both the youth and senior populations are expected to increase. Since the last report to the Transportation Committee, potential regional and sub-regional bus service hubs have been identified. The proposed regional centers in the COG area are Huntington Park/Vernon, Downtown Long Beach and the Norwalk Transit Center. Subregional centers under consideration include the Compton "Artesia" Blue Line Station, Bell Gardens/Downey, Lakewood and Whittier. In response to a questions, Ms. Michali explained that regional and sub-regional centers should have rail access.

There was discussion of the Santa Fe Springs Metro Link station and its function as a transit hub, the lack of connectivity between that location and the Green Line in Norwalk and the need for expanded parking. In response to questions, Chair Proo invited Ray Maekawa, Manager of MTA Southeast Area Team, to discuss the possible extension of the Green Line close this gap. Mr. Maekawa described the extension options that were reviewed in a 1993 EIR completed by the MTA. Mr. Maekawa explained that the COG may want to consider its position on the extension prior to the next MTA Long Range Transit Plan. Mr. Maekawa stated that there will be vigorous competition for limited available funds. It was agreed that he should come back for a more detailed presentation on this subject at a future meeting.

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Ms. Michali explained that the "Community Centers" would be those without rail access and might be hubs for express bus service, for example. These centers will be identified during service planning. In response to questions, Ms. Michali explained that the Gateway Cities Service Sector will convene the service planning process.

Committee members Keith McCarthy and Ed Norris for Desi Alvarez arrived during Ms. Michali's presentation. A quorum was then present.

Report by Alex Clifford, General Manager of the MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector. Mr. Clifford reported that the first service planning meeting had been convened last month and was well attended and well received. Members Sueiro and Becerra echoed Mr. Clifford's assessment that the meeting was productive and participants were excited about the potential for cooperative service planning. The next meeting will be held next week and it was agreed that Sector staff will work with COG staff on distributing the information to cities.

Mr. Clifford explained recent service changes and that service hours deleted from low performance lines were able to be reinvested where needed to improve service. He also reported that the Governance Council had participated in a tour of transit hubs in the area: the Norwalk Green Line station, the "Artesia" Blue Line Station in Compton, the Florence Blue Line Station and the intersection of Florence and Pacific. Following the tour, Council Members participated in a transit planning workshop. The next meeting of the Governance Council will be November 10 at 2:00 p.m. Governance Council members Shidler and Lowenthal were in attendance at the Transportation Committee meeting.

Minutes. It was moved by Member Farfsing, seconded by Member Hughlett and approved unanimously to approve the minutes as submitted.

New Business/Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2004. It was noted that one member would not be available on this date due to the National League of Cities meeting. Chair Proo stated that the Committee will meet if there is business to conduct.

Chair Proo congratulated COG Executive Director on his presentation to a UCLA sponsored invitation-only symposium on goods movement. Mr. Powers reported that the symposium drew an amazing assortment of participants, although there was an absence of industry participants. The emphasis was on transportation and air quality. Our subregion and its issues have gained national attention. The magnitude and complexity of the issues are great. No conclusions were reached but many creative ideas surfaced. Mr. Powers expressed his hope that someone will compile and advance these ideas. Chair Proo offered to share the conference report with Committee members as soon as it becomes available.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.