

**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
February 1, 2006**

There not being a quorum of the Board of Directors present, President Nordbak called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 6:12 p.m.

PRESENT: President Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Second Vice President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member John Pratt, City of Bellflower
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Anne Bayer, City of Downey
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Frank Colonna, City of Long Beach
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Fernando Pedroza, City of Lynwood
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs

ABSENT: Immediate Past President Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Ralph Morrow, City of Avalon
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member John Crawley, City of Cerritos
Member Robert Fierro, City of Commerce
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Leonard Chaidez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Bob Chotiner, City of La Mirada
Member Jeff Siccama, City of Montebello
Member David Armenta, City of Pico Rivera
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

ALSO PRESENT: Maywood Councilmember Samuel Pena; Lakewood Director of Community Development Charles Ebner; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; La Mirada Public Works Director Steve Forster;

Abdollah Ansari, Manager, Traffic and Transportation Bureau, City of Long Beach; Brynn Kernaghan, Executive Director, Community and Customer Service, Long Beach Transit; Jerry Wood, Executive Director, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; Al Perdon, Executive Director, Orangeline Development Authority; Ernest Morales, Director, Gateway Cities Area Team, Metro; Darin Chidsey, Member Relations Officer, SCAG; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Program Development Director Deborah Chankin; Karen Heit, GCCOG Transportation Deputy.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Colonna led the pledge of allegiance.

The Executive Director requested that agenda item VII.D. be considered following the report from the Transportation Committee. It was moved by Second Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Daniels, to move agenda item VII.D. to follow the report from the Transportation Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no comments from the public.

It was moved by Member Colonna, seconded by Second Vice President Nelson, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Dobson arrived at the meeting at 6:17 p.m. President Nordbak convened the meeting of the Board of Directors.

President Nordbak announced that, since the City of Maywood had replaced First Vice President Pena as its representative to the Board of Directors, there was now a vacancy in the office of First Vice President. He asked the members of the Board whether their preference was to keep the position vacant until the next regularly scheduled election in June or to agendize an election at next month's Board meeting.

Member Daniels asked if Second Vice President Nelson could just move up to the First Vice President position. The General Counsel responded that the Bylaws do not provide for automatic succession. Member DuBois asked what the duties of First President were. President Nordbak responded that there were no specific duties other than to chair meetings in the absence of the President. Member Lowenthal suggested that Second Vice President Nelson move up to First President. It was moved by Member Lowenthal, seconded by Member Daniels, to hold an election for First Vice President and Second Vice President at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director announced that Jackie Rynerson had resigned as a public member of the MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Governance Council and that her resignation created the need to hold an election to replace her. It was moved by

Member DuBois, seconded by Member Pedroza, to accept the resignation of Jackie Rynerson with regret. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Director of Program Development announced that the rules governing the filling of vacancies on the Governance Council required that the process be implemented to select a new public member. She said that there would first be an application period, followed by a review of the applications by a subcommittee of the COG's Transportation Committee, and that a recommendation for appointment be brought to the Board, probably in April. It was moved by Second Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Colonna, to advertise for applications for a public member to the MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Governance Council. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Lowenthal, as Chair of the Transportation Committee, asked Member Bayer, Member Guerrero, and Maywood Councilmember Pena to serve on the subcommittee to screen the applications for the Service Sector Council seat.

Member Colonna presented the report from the Conservancy Committee. He said that the Conservancy Board had authorized staff to release a request for proposals to develop a site plan for the recently acquired El Encanto Restaurant property in Azusa. He said that the building is under consideration as an interim headquarters for the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, which currently leases office space at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works offices. It was moved by Member Putnam, seconded by Member Pedroza, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

I-5 JPA Executive Director Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-5 Consortium Cities Joint Powers Authority. He reported that the Carmenita Road acquisition would begin later this month. He said that the Environmental Impact Report for the segment of I-5 from the Orange County line to I-605 was being reviewed by JPA staff. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented a report from the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee. He said that the Committee is still awaiting action by the East Los Angeles Tier 1 Committee on the I-710/I-5 "mini-study". He said that the development of a strategy on near-term air quality benefits was still being pulled together and should be completed by the end of the month. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Colonna, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented a report on the SR91/I-605 Needs Assessment Study. He said that members of the 91/605 Committee would be meeting with Assemblyman Bermudez regarding a funding strategy for a major corridor study. It was moved by Member Pedroza, seconded by Member Colonna, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Immediate Past President Wilson arrived at the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Member Lowenthal presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She reported that the Transportation Committee had voted to approve a list of recommendations regarding the proposed statewide transportation bond initiative. She passed out the list of recommendations to the Board. The Transportation Deputy described the three proposals regarding a statewide bond issue.

Member Pedroza asked if, to be included in the bond issue, a project needed to be a statewide project. The Executive Director responded that he understood that a local or regional project could be included, but that it would have to be a large, significant project. The Transportation Deputy said that SB 1024 (Perata) may include discretionary money for local projects through a call for projects mechanism. Member Pedroza asked if money could be included to shore up Caltrans. Member Lowenthal said that perhaps Caltrans could come to a future meeting to describe what shortages there are.

It was moved by Member Lowenthal, seconded by Member Putnam, to adopt the list of recommendations from the Transportation Committee regarding the statewide transportation bond issue. The motion was approved unanimously.

Al Perdon, Executive Director of the Orangeline Development Authority, presented a status report on the Orangeline project. He said that a \$1.5 million preliminary engineering study was underway to examine the viability of the project. He said that the study is a public/private partnership involving 28 private companies led by ARCADIS. He said that, ultimately, the project would go to a bond agency for placement as a private bond. He said that he had met with Assemblyman Hector De La Torre regarding a proposed bill that would provide for a loan guarantee that would fund an Environmental Impact Report.

Mr. Perdon said that the Authority was looking to add more member cities to its current number of fourteen. He said that he will be talking soon to the cities of San Fernando and Glendale. He reported on a recent trip to visit the Shanghai maglev system in China. He expressed appreciation for the support that the COG had given the Orangeline project.

Member Bayer asked how many cities the Orangeline would ultimately go through. Mr. Perdon responded that the proposed line passes through 27 cities. He said he hoped that all 27 and some neighboring cities would join the Authority. President Nordbak asked how maglev would work with a system of short distance stops. Mr. Perdon answered that even with stops five to six miles apart a maglev train could average 90-100 miles per hour because of the technology's high acceleration and deceleration. President Nordbak asked about grade separations. Mr. Perdon said that the system run on an elevated guide way over existing rights of way.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Wilson, seconded by Member Pratt, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Second Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Pratt, to receive and file the agendas for the SCAG Regional Council and SCAG policy committees. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nordbak thanked Member Guerrero, Member Bayer, and Councilman Pena for agreeing to serve on the subcommittee to review the applications for the MTA Gateway Cities Sector Governance Council.

Member Daniels distributed the 2005 State of the Region report from SCAG.

There were no matters from staff.

Adjournment: The meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned by consensus at 6:57 p.m.