

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
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  
September 19, 2007**

President Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
First Vice President Anne Bayer, City of Downey  
Second Vice President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk  
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
Member Laura Lee, City of Cerritos  
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce  
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton  
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy  
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights  
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach  
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Member Ron Beilke, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate  
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier

**ABSENT:** Immediate Past President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia  
Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon  
Member Oscar Hernandez, City of Bell  
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens  
Member John Heckerman, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member Fernando Pedroza, City of Lynwood  
Member Jeff Siccama, City of Montebello  
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Ex Officio Member Kerry Cartwright, Port of Long Beach

**ALSO PRESENT:** Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe; Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster;

Lakewood Director of Community Development Jack Gonsalves; Commerce Senior Administrative Analyst Fernando Mendoza; Bell Liaison to GCCOG David Tokofsky; David Madsen, Senior Public Information Specialist, SCAQMD; Darin Chidsey, Member Relations Officer, SCAG; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Ernest Morales, Deputy Executive Officer, Metro; Alex Clifford, General Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; Michael Sieckert, Planning Manager, Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector; David Hershensen, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Jill Dominguez, President, WRJ Group, Inc.; Paul Garza, Garza Consulting; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Director of Program Development Deborah Chankin; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry R. Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

First Vice President Bayer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

The Executive Director reported that the COG was working with the San Gabriel Valley COG on a regional goods movement study under an OWP project for SCAG and that he had met last week with San Gabriel Valley COG Executive Director Nick Conway and his staff. The Executive Director said that he had attended a joint meeting of federal and state housing agencies conducted by Congresswoman Grace Napolitano. He said that he had represented President Guerrero at a session on councils of governments in Los Angeles County held at the Annual Conference of the League of California Cities. The Executive Director reported that GCCOG Engineer Jerry Wood had held a second meeting of stakeholders regarding the Intelligent Transportation Systems grant project. He said that the aim is to bring together those in both the public and private sector who would use the technology to be developed as a result of the project.

It was moved by Member Hurtado, seconded by Member DuBois, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

Darin Chidsey, SCAG Member Relations Officer, presented a report on the activities of SCAG. He said that SCAG is in the process of updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and that a new draft of the RTP would be released on November 1<sup>st</sup>. He said that SCAG would host a number of workshops on the RTP before that date.

Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities, referred the Board to a newsletter which listed a number of bills currently on the Governor's desk. She said the most important of these are AB 193 and AB 196, which clarify the Proposition 1B formula for allocations to cities. She said that ACA 8 concerning eminent domain reform had failed passage in

the Legislature. She said that signatures are being gathered by proponents of an initiative to restrict eminent domain to be placed on the ballot in November.

There was no report from the I-5 Consortium Cities Joint Powers Authority.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

David Madsen, Senior Public Information Specialist, presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He distributed the September edition of the AQMD Advisor newsletter to the Board. He said that CARB is getting ready to hold a public hearing on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in Diamond Bar to consider the State Air Quality Management Plan. He reported on the August 9<sup>th</sup> hearing at the Port of Los Angeles on Senator Boxer's proposed Emission Reduction Act, which would require ships to use lower emission fuels.

Member O'Donnell presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said the Committee had not held a meeting last month, but would be meeting next week to discuss new grant guidelines under Proposition 84. He said about \$37 million is available for grants under Proposition 84.

The Executive Director presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He reported that the MTA Board of Directors had awarded a contract to URS to act as the prime consultant to conduct their/EIS phase of the project. He said that I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee Chairman Bob Foster had selected October 31<sup>st</sup> as the date for the next meeting of the Committee.

The Executive Director presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said that Jerry Wood and the consultant team would be presenting their analysis to the Corridor Cities Committee on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Member Lowenthal presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said that the Committee had heard a report from SCAG on the development of the Regional Transportation Plan update. She said that MTA staff presented an update on the Long Range Transportation Plan and the financial forecast.

The Executive Director introduced Jill Dominguez, President of the WRJ Group, to give a presentation on Information Communication Technology (ICT) and the importance of incorporating ICT into a regional Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). He said that Congresswoman Linda Sanchez had observed a similar study in Orange County concerning communities that do not have access to technologies in the information age. He said that if the Board wished to pursue the matter further it would be referred to the City Managers Steering Committee.

Ms. Dominguez said that the ICT CEDS is a comprehensive strategy conducted by university researchers that utilizes information technology as an economic development tool. She said it provides baseline ICT infrastructure measurements for a city, county,

state, or region to develop strategic recommendations and an economic development plan. She asked how many Board members knew where their communications infrastructure is located. She said that the Orange County study showed that information technology infrastructure was an important factor in determining where companies chose to be located. She said that if all twenty-six cities other than Long Beach, which is conducting its own study, participated in providing the match for an EDA grant, it would save about \$3,000 per city.

Member Nordbak asked how the cable company which makes the investment in the infrastructure to make the technology accessible gets compensated. Ms. Dominguez responded that it is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission. Member Nordbak asked how cities which have a utility user's tax would be allocated their appropriate share of revenues from a system. Ms. Dominguez said that the cities would need to set up their own system to capture them.

Member Du Bois said that even though individual Board members may not know where their infrastructure is located, there may be people on their city staffs who do know.

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

Member Daniels referred the Board members to flyers announcing the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to be held the upcoming weekend in the City of Paramount.

Member Daniels asked about the condition of Member Putnam. Member Nordbak described Member Putnam's recent accident and responded that she is currently in a drug induced coma. He asked for prayers for her. He said that she is not receiving cards, flowers, or visitors at this time.

There were no matters from the President.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Guerrero at 6:45 p.m.