

**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
May 7, 2008**

President Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:01 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
Immediate Past President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Jim Edwards, City of Cerritos
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Gracie Gallegos-Smith, City of Pico Rivera
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member William Davis, City of Vernon

ABSENT: Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Kathy Salazar, City of Montebello
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach

ALSO PRESENT: Norwalk Vice Mayor Cheri Kelley; Santa Fe Springs Councilman Louie Gonzalez; Signal Hill Council Member Larry Forester; Connie

Sziebl, Field Deputy for Supervisor Don Knabe; Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Lakewood Director of Community Development Jack Gonsalves; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; David Tokofsky, City of Bell; Ernest Morales, Deputy Executive Officer, Metro; David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; David Madsen, Public Affairs Representative, SCAQMD; Kathryn Higgins, Program Supervisor, SCAQMD; Mike Bassett, Executive Director and CEO, Conservation Corps of Long Beach; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; GCCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCCOG Consultant Engineer Jerry R. Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

President Guerrero led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Immediate Past President Nelson, to approve the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

The Executive Director reported that eight seats were available for the Fourteenth Annual California State University, Long Beach, Economic Forecast Conference and asked that any Board Members interested in attending contact COG staff.

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

Signal Hill Council Member Larry Forrester introduced a presentation regarding the Conservation Corps of Long Beach. He said that he was present not as a member of the Signal Hill City Council, but as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Conservation Corps. He gave a brief description of the activities of the Conservation Corps and introduced Mike Bassett, Executive Director and CEO of the Conservation Corps of Long Beach. A power point presentation on the Conservation Corps was presented. Mr. Bassett explained that 85% of the participants in the Corps' programs don't have high school diplomas. He said the participants are generally between the ages of 18 and 25, come from low income households, and are high school dropouts. Through the Corps, the participants learn job skills and responsibility and have the opportunity to complete the requirements for a high school diploma. Mr. Bassett said that he was there to ask for the Board's support and endorsement.

Member Daniels asked where the youths come from. Mr. Bassett responded that about one-third of them are on probation, and that most are young people who haven't graduated. He said that they don't recruit; the youths come to them. They currently

have 100 youths on the waiting list. He said the program is a year long, but if a participant is on the verge of obtaining a high school diploma, the term may be extended. Member DuBois asked if everyone who takes part wants to get a high school diploma. Mr. Bassett responded that it is a requirement; they don't have a choice.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Daniels, to endorse the Conservation Corps of Long Beach.

Member Gurule asked how much classroom time is involved. Mr. Bassett said that about 16 hours are spent in the classroom and 32 hours working. Member Mirabal said that his city is in the Los Angeles Conservation Corps' area and asked whether the Long Beach Corps can cross boundaries. Mr. Bassett responded that they can and that the corps cooperate closely with each other. Immediate Past President Nelson asked who accepts liability for the workers. Mr. Bassett responded that the Corps is certified by the State and carries liability insurance. President Guerrero asked if Mr. Bassett was willing to come to cities that request a presentation. He responded that he was,

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

David Madsen, Public Affairs Representative for the South Coast Air Quality Management District, gave a presentation regarding the AB 2766 Subvention Fund Program. AB 2766 funds are derived from an annual DMV surcharge of \$4 on vehicle license registrations and are distributed to cities on a per capita basis for use on projects related to improving air quality, such as vehicle replacement with alternative fuel units. Mr. Madsen introduced Kathryn Higgins, who is the District's supervisor of AB 2766 funds. Ms. Higgins said that she is available to provide technical assistance to cities on use of their AB 2766 funds.

Immediate Past President Nelson inquired as to why the SCAQMD was not present at the recent alternative fuel vehicles conference in Arizona. Ms. Higgins responded that, generally, District staff only participates in events held within the District boundaries. Member Wilson asked how the State determines the distribution of the AB 2766 funds. Ms. Higgins said that the funds are distributed by zip code to the county. Member O'Donnell asked how necessary the District's wood burning rule is. Mr. Madsen replied that the rule limits burning wood that is too green in a fireplace.

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

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair of the City Managers Steering Committee, presented a report regarding the Los Angeles River Coordinated Monitoring Plan Memorandum of Agreement. He explained that this was the second of three agreements that the Board would be entering into with relation to the administration of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) in the regional watersheds. The first agreement adopted by the Board was for the oversight of special scientific studies. He said this second agreement would be for the implementation of a Coordinated Monitoring Plan

(CMP), under which the County of Los Angeles will install devices to measure TMDL levels at targeted locations along the Los Angeles River, and the City of Los Angeles will perform the monitoring service. The costs would be borne by the 42 cities that would execute implementation agreements with the COG.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Davis, to approve the Los Angeles River Coordinated Monitoring Plan Memorandum of Agreement. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from SCAG.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said that Propositions 98 and 99 relating to eminent domain were on the June ballot and that opposition to Proposition 98 had grown, including from Governor Schwarzenegger. She said the Governor's May revise of the budget was due on May 15th. She said the Legislative Analyst's Office has proposed a \$200 million cut in VLF funding. She referred the Board to a flyer announcing a one day briefing on the state budget to be held in Sacramento on May 21st.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

The Executive Director presented a report from the I-5 Consortium Cities Joint Powers Authority. He said that next week the MTA Planning and Programs Committee would be holding a major vote on \$1.5 billion funding for the I-5 project.

There was no report from the Orangeline Development Authority.

David Hershensen presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said that the Metro Board of Directors had voted to overturn all of the proposed service cuts in the region.

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said that the Conservancy Board approved an amendment to the grant for the City of Bellflower's Riverview Park project, and that the Board recommended that the Watershed Conservation Authority enter into negotiations to purchase 7.81 acres within the City of South Gate for a riparian restoration project between the Los Angeles River and the I-710 freeway. It was moved by Immediate Past President Nelson, seconded by Member Daniels, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said that the local advisory committee meetings would begin this month or next and that the Project Committee would meet next month. He said the project consultant had named a new project manager. It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Gurule, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee.

He said that the Corridor Cities Committee would be meeting next week to hear reports on the recently completed initial corridor studies. It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by President Guerrero, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Transportation Committee.

Member Wilson suggested that cities look into AB 811, which allows cities to bond to help with financing alternative energy sources such as solar panels for residences and businesses.

President Guerrero announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of Jacqueline Rynerson, former Mayor of the City of Lakewood, who was an advocate for regional issues for southeast Los Angeles County and a member of the first MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Governance Council.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:06 p.m.