

**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
October 7, 2009**

President Stefenhagen called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

PRESENT: President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
First Vice President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate
Second Vice President Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Immediate Past President Anne M. Bayer, City of Downey
Member Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell
Member Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton
Member Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Pete Dames, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Kathy Salazar, City of Montebello
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Connie Sziebl, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina

ABSENT: Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member from the City of Long Beach
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Bob Archuleta, City of Pico Rivera
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Member Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach
ALSO PRESENT: Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City

Managers Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Jorge Rifa; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; Lakewood Acting Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell; Long Beach Government Affairs Manager Tom Modica; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; MTA Executive Officer Diego Cardoso; MTA Executive Officer for High Speed Rail Alex Clifford; MTA Deputy Executive Officer Ernest Morales; MTA Program Manager Jon Grace; MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Council Member Wally Shidler; MTA Gateway Cities Service Sector Council Member George Bass; Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector General Manager Dana M. Coffey; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershenson; Metro Gateway Cities Planning Manager Mike Sieckert; SCAQMD Senior Public Affairs Officer Derrick Alatorre; SCAG Regional Affairs Officer Matt Horton; Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director/Authority Engineer, I-5 JPA; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Michael Kodama, Executive Director, Orangeline Development Authority; Los Angeles County Librarian Margaret Todd; Davis Schwartz, President, The Resources Company; 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 Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Stefenhagen requested that the Transportation Committee report be moved up on the agenda because it was possible that Member DuBois would have to leave the meeting early. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Nelson, to move the Transportation Committee report to the front of the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She introduced a resolution that had been endorsed earlier by the Transportation Committee supporting the submission of the Regional Connector and Westside Subway Expansion as Los Angeles County's priorities for federal New Starts funding. Member DuBois explained that the funding would allow the Blue Line to extend all the way to Pasadena. She said that if these projects are funded by federal grants, it will free up Measure R funds for regional projects. After discussion among the Board members, it was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by First Vice President Hurtado, to waive further reading and adopt the resolution:

Resolution No. 2009-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GATEWAY CITIES
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SUPPORTING SUBMISSION OF THE
REGIONAL CONNECTOR AND WESTSIDE SUBWAY EXPANSION AS LOS
ANGELES COUNTY'S PRIORITIES FOR FTA NEW STARTS FUNDING

The motion was approved unanimously.

Member DuBois described a recent meeting with members of the California High Speed Rail Authority. She said the purpose of the meeting was to emphasize the point that the Authority cannot ignore local communities in designing the project. She said the cities along the proposed corridor were well represented. She invited Santa Fe Springs City Manager to add his comments regarding the meeting. Mr. Latham said the bottom line of the meeting was that two members of the High Speed Rail Authority's Board agreed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Gateway Cities COG to address local concerns. He said the aim is to achieve a document that the COG and the cities can support. Mr. Latham explained that the High Speed Rail Authority has applied for \$2 billion in federal funds for the LOSSAN corridor. He said it appears that congressional representatives will sign a side letter saying that their support for the funding assumes that the Authority will be engaging local communities. He said the MTA is fully engaged, with Alex Clifford acting as our liaison.

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

There were no public comments made.

There were no matters from staff.

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

There was no report from the MTA.

President Stefenhagen introduced County Librarian Margaret Todd who addressed the Board on the County Library's Strategic Financial Planning Project. She said this is the first time that the Library was doing long range planning. Ms. Todd introduced Dave Schwartz, President of the Resources Company, consultants to the County Library. Mr. Schwartz gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the strategic planning project. He said the project has two phases, with Phase I, examining costs, revenues, and financial capacity, setting the baseline for Phase II, which will examine customer needs, a demographic analysis, service levels, a special parcel tax enhancement, and equity of service. He said equity of service is a key area. The end product would be five year and ten year financial plans. Mr. Schwartz said replacement of the existing special

parcel tax is the only apparent way for the Library to generate sufficient additional funding for both operating and capital costs.

Ms. Todd said that the only other solutions identified by the consultant are cutting operating hours and paid staff, seeding increased financial support from the County general fund, or to seek increased general fund support from cities in the Library District.

Member Wilson asked if the vision is that the County libraries will continue to exist in their current form. Ms. Todd responded that it is the current assumption, but that it needs to be looked at. She asked how to receive input from the Gateway Cities. She asked if a letter to the city managers asking for volunteers to serve on a steering committee would be a good start. Member DuBois responded that it would be a good place to go.

Member Nelson asked if the tax generated within a city stays with that city's County library. Ms. Todd responded that it is something that the steering committee can look at.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented a staff report recommending a proposed organizational structure for the Gateway Cities Homeless Planning and Implementation project. He introduced Santa Fe Springs City Manager Fred Latham, who summarized the proposed organization chart, which included a seven member Committee on Homelessness appointed by the Board of Directors, a thirteen member Leadership Entity, and four Local Coordinating Alliances. Mr. Latham said that it is recommended that a \$100 stipend per meeting, based on attendance, be paid to the elected official members of the Committee on Homelessness.

After discussion among the Board members, it was moved by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Barrows, to adopt the proposed organizational chart for Homeless Planning and Implementation and the accompanying narrative description, and to authorize payment of a \$100 stipend for elected official members of the Committee on Homelessness. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Wilson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said, because of state furloughs, the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board now meets on a bi-monthly basis and that the RMC offices are closed three Fridays a month. It was moved by Member Salazar, seconded by Member O'Donnell, 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 the project is on schedule, the traffic model is being studied, and the geometric plans are being updated. He reported that the subject working groups have been meeting regularly. Mr. Wood said the next step is to start all of the environmental studies.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the feasibility analysis of "hot spots" projects is to be funded out of Measure R. He announced that Caltrans District 7 Director Doug Failing is joining MTA to head that agency's highway program.

It was moved by First Vice President Hurtado, seconded by Member Aguilar, to receive and file the reports from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee and the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

Karen Heit presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said that she anticipates that the MTA will adopt the Long Range Transportation Plan this month. It was moved by Member Dobson, seconded by First Vice President Hurtado, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She said the JPA is now focusing on construction schedules for the Carmenita, Valley View, and Alondra interchanges. She said there are about fifteen projects that the JPA feels are necessary prior to construction commencing on the I-5 mainline because of the traffic impacts cities will experience during the freeway construction. She reported that the JPA is running out of funds for the EIR on the segment from I-605 to I-710, and that they are working on identifying other sources of funding.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the League's General Assembly had moved to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot in 2010 to protect local revenues.

There was no report from the California Contract Cities Association.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He reported that last Thursday the CEHD had voted to remove all references to regional targets under SB 375. He said SCAG would be convening a workshop on developing a regional strategy.

Michael Kodama presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. He said that the federal ARRA high speed rail funding applications were now out. He said he is working with MTA, SCAG, and OCTA to get the feasibility study started. Member Barrows said that he had heard from SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhtrata that the project will start in January.

Derrick Alatorre presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He said that SB 696 had been gutted, but that the same

language had been amended into AB 927, which was now on the Governor's desk awaiting his signature.

Dana Coffey presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. She reported on upcoming meetings of the Sector Council.

There was no report from the Long Beach Conservation Corps.

There was no report from the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors.

It was moved by First Vice President Hurtado, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to receive and file all of the committee/agency reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

First Vice President Hurtado reported that there had been a fire at the business owned by South Gate Councilman Bill DeWitt. Member Nelson announced that Long Beach Marathon and Bike Tour would be held on Saturday.

President Stefenhagen announced that he had appointed Member Mirabal to the SCAG Energy and Environment Committee. He said that there is a vacancy on the SCAG Community, Economic, and Human Development Committee. He said this is an important position because of the impact of SB 375 on cities.

Adjournment: It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.