

**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  
February 3, 2010**

President Stefenhagen called the meeting to order at 6:05 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 Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
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 W. Michael McCormick, City of Vernon  
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier  
Member Curt Pederson, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe  
Member Erica Jacquez-Santos, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

**ABSENT:** Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon  
Member Victor Farfan, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
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 Richard Steinke, Ex Officio Member, Port of Long Beach  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Signal Hill Council Member Larry Forester; SCAQMD  
Governing Board Member Tonia Reyes Uranga; Ray Pok, Chief of Staff, Long  
Beach Councilmember Tonia Reyes Uranga; Signal Hill City Manager Ken  
Farfsing, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Commerce Senior

Management Analyst Fernando Mendoza; 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; SCAG Regional Affairs Officer Matt Horton; MTA Deputy Executive Officer Ernest Morales; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershenson; Metro Gateway Cities Planning Manager Mike Sieckert; SCAQMD Senior Public Affairs Officer Derrick Alatorre; Yvette Kirrin, Executive Director/Authority Engineer, I-5 JPA; Mike Kodama, Executive Director, Orangeline Development Authority; Joel Roberts, CEO, PATH Partners; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer; GCCOG Engineer Jerry Wood.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Putnam led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Executive Director reported that it had been brought to the COG's attention after the posting of the agenda that the SCAG CEHD Committee and Regional Council would be considering an item regarding fiscalization of land use at tomorrow's meetings. It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Guerrero, to add the consideration of the SCAG items regarding fiscalization of land use to the agenda as an emergency item that came to the Board's attention after the posting of the agenda and which requires action prior to the next meeting of the Board of Directors. The motion was approved unanimously.

Signal Hill City Manager addressed the Board regarding the SCAG consideration of action pertaining to the fiscalization of land use. He said communities need to see how a sales tax/property tax swap would affect them. He said there had been no analysis as to how SCAG came to the conclusion that sales tax affects SB 375, which is how SCAG is presenting this issue.

Member Barrows said that this subject is outside of SCAG's purview. Member Nordbak said that the Board should be careful about taking a position because some cities could benefit by the sales tax/property tax swap.

It was moved by First Vice President Hurtado, seconded by Member Daniels, that no action be taken by SCAG until there is more information about how this issue would affect cities.

Member DuBois said much of what motivates Supervisor Chris Norby, who was advancing the proposal, is that cities are enticing businesses to move in order to gain the benefit of the sales tax. Member O'Donnell asked what would be required to make this be implemented. The General Counsel responded that it probably requires state legislation, possibly even a constitutional amendment.

Member Salazar said she does not understand how SCAG is even getting into this area. Member DuBois responded that they are using SB 375 as the link. Signal Hill

Councilmember Larry Forester said that there are things weaving in and out of SCAG that are not vetted by cities. Lakewood Acting Director of Community Development Sonia Southwell said that property values are not projected to grow as fast as retail sales and the state has been borrowing property taxes from cities, and questioned why cities would choose this approach.

Member Barrows offered a friendly amendment to the motion that the COG's position be passed out at tomorrow's SCAG meetings. The amendment was accepted by First Vice President Hurtado and Member Daniels.

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

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

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

President Stefenhagen reported that the Committee on Homelessness had elected Member Guerrero as Chair and Second Vice President Dunton as Vice Chair. Member Guerrero said that the goal of the Committee is to reduce homelessness throughout the Gateway Cities subregion. She said the Committee would be providing policy guidance to PATH Partners.

Joel Roberts, CEO of PATH Partners, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the implementation of a regional strategy to end homelessness. He described the guiding principles as implementing local solutions that are results based, involve community stakeholders, and make use of partnerships and alliances. He summarized the initial research and said the plan is to implement four strategies that communities wanted: homeless prevention services, a first responders program, interim housing, and permanent supportive housing. To implement the strategy, four local coordinating alliances will be formed.

The Executive Director announced the leaders of the four local coordinating alliances: LCA 1—Huntington Park; LCA 2—Whittier or Santa Fe Springs; LCA 3—Norwalk; LCA 4—Long Beach.

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

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing presented a report from the City Managers Steering Committee regarding stormwater treatment. He said the Committee recommended that the Board support a request from the City of Long Beach for a \$41 million grant from a federal earmark for a stormwater treatment plan. The project would extend funding for cities to install the trash capture devices recently approved for the Gateway IRWM for the Los Angeles River to the San Gabriel River, and would also fund the installation of catch basin filters designed to reduce particulate metals and oils, and to treat bacteria. Mr. Farfsing said the aim is to acquire State IRWMP funds to provide

the required match for the federal grant.

Member DuBois asked what would happen if they are unable to get the State IRWMP funds to match. Mr. Farfsing said cities would have the option of providing the matching funds themselves or dropping out.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member Nelson, to approve the recommendation. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director presented an update on the California High Speed Rail Authority planning activities. He said that new agreements had been crafted to protect the COG from any financial liability for the technical analysis that will be undertaken under the MOU with the High Speed Rail Authority. He said the overall administration of the process will be done by the Administrative Committee created by the MOU made up of the cities within the project corridor. He said the new agreements have the COG consultants working as subconsultants to the CHSRA's major consultant. However, the COG will retain control over the scope of work of the consultants. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member O'Donnell presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said the Conservancy is observing its tenth anniversary this year and is planning a celebration to mark that milestone. He said the Board had approved grant amendments for projects in South Gate and Cerritos.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He said the Project Committee had met the previous week and that Secretary of Business, Housing, and Transportation Dale Bonner was in attendance and addressed the Committee on the importance to the State of the I-710 project. Mr. Wood reported that the MTA had hired a consultant to look at possible public/private partnerships for funding the I-710 improvements.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said staff is working with the MTA on a scope of work for the feasibility analysis.

Member DuBois presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said the MTA Board had approved \$6.645 million for design of the I-5 project. She said that Lupe Valdez of Union Pacific had reported to the Committee that the recent run of a three mile long train was a test and was not going to be a repetitive activity.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by First Vice President Hurtado, to receive and file the committee reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented report from the I-5 JPA. She said the project had received MTA funding and was now working on traffic mitigation projects in advance of the first stage of construction. She said there would be about a six month delay on the start of the Carmenita bridge project to April 2011 because of right-of-way issues.

There was no report from the League of California Cities.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He said that tomorrow the SCAG Regional Council would not be considering policy regarding the fiscalization of land use, but would be hearing a report from CEHD.

Mike Kodama presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. He said that staff had been evaluating responses from consultants to RFQs and are developing a list of eligible consultants.

AQMD Board Member Tonia Reyes Uranga presented a report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. She said tomorrow the City Selection Committee would be electing the western cities representative on the AQMD Board. She gave some background on how the western cities seat was created after the City of Los Angeles received its own seat. She explained the importance of the western representative seat to the COG because of the significant pollution issues in the Gateway Cities.

David Hershenson presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said the service sectors are being centralized, but the governance councils will remain in place. He said there would be a meeting on February 16 to explain how the sector councils will work under the new arrangement.

Signal Hill Council Member Larry Forester presented a report from the Long Beach Conservation Corps. He said the Corps is still struggling to make up for lost revenues from the State's taking of the bottle bill revenues. He asked for cities' help by utilizing the 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 Aguilar, to receive and file all of the agency reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member O'Donnell, to add an emergency item to the agenda for the Board to make a recommendation for the SCAQMD seat representing the western cities. The motion failed to receive the necessary four-fifths vote to add an item to the agenda.

Member Carroll asked that an item be included on next month's agenda to look at a new funding formula for the Sustainable Communities Strategy under SB 375.

Member Barrows asked that consideration of HR 3734 (Sires), the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act, be included on next month's agenda.

There were no matters from President Stefenhagen.

**Adjournment:** It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.