

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE I-710 OVERSIGHT POLICY COMMITTEE**

**A Meeting Held at Progress Park
15500 Downey Avenue
Paramount, California**

January 15, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Co-Chair Sam Peña.

II. ROLL CALL. Gateway Cities Council of Governments Executive Director Richard Powers called the roll. A quorum was found to be present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT. Co-Chair Frank Colonna, Long Beach; Co-Chair Sam Peña, Maywood; Daniel Crespo, Bell Gardens; Jim Dear, Carson; Nancy Ramos, Commerce; Isadore Hall III, Compton; Fernando Pedroza, Lynwood; Gene Daniels, Paramount; William Davis, Vernon; Sharas Bangalore, Caltrans; Ray Maekawa, LACMTA; Mario Cordero, Port of Long Beach; Michael Chan, Port of Los Angeles; Al Bowser, SCAG.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT. George Cole, Bell; Juan Noguez, Huntington Park; Gloria Molina, Los Angeles County;

OTHERS PRESENT. Richard Powers, Gateway Cities COG Executive Director; Deborah Chankin, Gateway Cities COG Director of Program Development; Robert Messinger, Legal Counsel, Susan Gilmore, LACMTA Agency Relations Manager; Jeannine Critie, staff to Frank Colonna; Nadene Bristow, Gateway Cities COG; I-710 Technical Advisory Committee Chair Bill Pagett.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Co-Chair Colonna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA. It was requested and agreed to move item VII B forward in the agenda immediately following the consent calendar.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS. Co-Chair Sam Peña called for public comments and request comments be limited to three minutes per speaker.

Norma Macías, a resident of Commerce stated that she was speaking form small children and mothers. Ms. Macías is a crossing guard and catechism teacher and knows many children in the community. She believes that high incidences of low birth weight and learning disabilities are the result of diesel exhaust. She also expressed concern about potential right of way impacts on the community.

Silvia Macías, a resident 20-year-old of Commerce described the depth of her family's roots in the community including the family business, memories, homes and the schools attended by her extended family. Ms. Macías expressed her concern about potential right of way impacts on these places and institutions.

Leonard Mendoza, a resident of Commerce, advised that 20 Commerce residents were in attendance. Mr. Mendoza is President of United Families of Bristow Park with a membership of about 100. Mr. Mendoza expressed his concerns about potential right of way impacts on residences and the park itself. He described the experience of a member who experienced relief from certain medical symptoms while on vacation out of the area and the return of the symptoms upon return home from vacation.

Joe Lozano, a resident of Commerce from the Bristow area expressed the desire of the neighborhood to maintain its quality of life. Mr. Lozana expressed support for remodeling the I-710 because improvements are needed, but expressed opposition to expanding the I-710 because this would expand the volume of truck traffic.

Robert Cabrales of Communities for a Better Environment described himself as a long time resident of various southeast Los Angeles communities. Mr. Cabrales read and distributed a letter to the OPC. The letter signed by nine community organizations enumerated nine considerations for the OPC to take into account in choosing a hybrid. These include no increase of diesel emissions, additional environmental studies, additional economic studies, use of alternative fuels and an extended schedule.

Member Ramos stated her agreement with the concerns of Commerce residents and distributed a copy of City of Commerce Resolution 04-1 supporting the "Bandini Alternative."

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of the December 4, 2003, meeting of the I-710 Oversight Policy Committee. It was moved by Co-Chair Colonna, seconded by member Daniels to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was approved unanimously.

VII. REPORTS

B. In accordance with the amendments to the agenda, the OPC took up item VII B. Appointment by the OPC of up to 15 members of the Tier 2 Advisory Committee. Richard Powers (GCCOG) recapped the establishment of the Tier 1 community level committees and the composition of the Tier 2 Committee. Each community will have a representative on the Tier 2 Committee. In addition, the OPC will name up to 15 stakeholders representing broad interest categories. When these two groups meet together they may then name up to ten (10) additional members with a total not to exceed 47. Mr. Powers pointed out that the names of 45 volunteers and/or nominees presented at the last meeting are included in the agenda packet.

Co-Chair Colonna stated that he and Co-Chair Peña reviewed the 45 names and tried to formulate a roster representing a cross section of interests. Co-Chair Colonna distributed the roster and stated that the second page

represented additional names the Co-chairs were recommending as contingencies in the event that some number of the persons on the primary list were unable to serve.

It was moved by Co-chair Colonna, seconded by Member Dear to appoint the following persons to the Tier 2 Corridor Level Community Advisory Committee:

From academia Ed Avol, MD of the USC School of Medicine and Joe Magaddino, PhD of the CSULB, Department of Economics; from business Steve Goodling of the Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau, Patty Senecal of the California Trucking Association, and Charlie Woo, CEO of Megatoys, Inc.; from environmental interests Malcolm Carson, attorney with the Legal Aid Foundation, Belinda Faustinos of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, low income and immigrant housing advocate Fernando Guerra, Elisa Nicholas, MD of the Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma, Noel Park of the San Pedro and Peninsula Homeowners Coalition; from labor Louis Diaz of the Teamsters Union, Domenick Miretti of the International Longshore Workers Union, Richard Slawson of the Building Trades Council; from institutions and additional stakeholders Hamid Bahadori of the Automobile Club and Harold Williams representing the South Bay Council of Governments.

Member Crespo and Member Ramos expressed concern that they did not see representation from their cities among the 15 names. Mr. Powers explained that each community will be represented by a member of its own choosing in addition to these 15 broad based stakeholders. Mr. Crespo called for a roll call.

The motion carried by a roll call vote of ten (10) to three (3).

Ayes: City of Carson, City of Compton, City of Long Beach, City of Maywood, City of Paramount, City of Vernon, Port of Long Beach, MTA, SCAG, and Caltrans.

Noes: City of Bell Gardens, City of Commerce, City of Lynwood

Present and not voting: Port of Los Angeles.

Member Keith McCarthy, Downey arrived at 7:15 p.m.

It was moved by Member Dear and seconded by Member Cordero that Joan Greenwood be the first priority individual on the contingency list should one of the appointees decline. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 14 ayes with one member present and not voting.

Ayes: City of Bell Gardens, City of Carson, City of Compton, City of Lynwood, City of Long Beach, City of Maywood, City of Paramount, City of Vernon, Port of Long Beach, Port of Los Angeles, MTA, SCAG, and Caltrans.

Present and not voting: City of Downey

- A. The written order of the agenda was resumed with item VII. A. Report on Progress of Community Advisory Committees.

Pat McLaughlin reported for the facilitators Moore Iacofano Goltsman (MIG.) Ms. McLaughlin pointed out that the agenda packet contained a matrix showing Advisory Committee Progress and the names of the community representatives to Tier 2. Member Hall and Co-Chair Peña advised that the Cities of Compton and Maywood have also made their appointments to Tier 2. Ms. McLaughlin reported that MIG will facilitate the Tier 2 meetings beginning with an anticipated kick-off meeting on February 5, 2004.

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

- B. Status Report on Near-Term Safety Improvements to the I-710 Freeway from the Ports to State Route 60. Mr. Powers recapped the OPC's action at its last meeting in which the I-710 safety initiative was adopted including six (6) elements: public education and awareness; enhanced enforcement; median concrete barriers; truck inspection and weighing facilities; Intelligent Transportation Systems; and improved infrastructure.

Member Hector De La Torre, South Gate, arrived at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Powers announced that Clear Channel Communications will be making available a billboard along the I-710 for the posting of a traffic safety message. The precise content of the message is still being worked out. The location will rotate from time to time along the corridor.

Mr. Powers introduced California Highway Patrol (CHP) Captain Craig Klein. Captain Klein updated the OPC about recent enforcement activity. He stated that Caltrans has given authorization for re-designation of the I-710 as a "Truck Safety Corridor." Although no extra funds are available for safety activities at this time, CHP staff is committed to cooperating with local cities to create effective ways to get out the safety message. In response to a question from Member Cordero, Captain Klein replied that speed is the most common citation. He explained that 50% of collisions involving trucks have a finding of a car at fault, so enforcement and education efforts now include all drivers. In response to a question from Member Daniels, Captain Klein stated that trucks are generally pulled out of traffic so that the citation and any inspection process do not generate additional roadway hazards. Member McCarthy commented on the importance of reminding the public to signal all lane changes. In response to a question from Co-Chair Peña, Captain Klein explained that specific training and expertise are required to inspect and cite trucks for emissions violations. Generally, the CHP relies on a partnership with the Air Quality Management District to issue emissions citations.

Mr. Powers announced that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan

Transportation Authority (MTA) will be sponsoring a big rig demonstration project as part of its Freeway Service Patrol Program. Mr. Powers indicated that the MTA will report on this welcome development at the next OPC meeting.

Mr. Powers invited Member Bangalore of Caltrans to update the Committee on the concrete barrier projects. Member Bangalore reported that Project 1 continues under construction. Project 2 from the 405 to Firestone was personally reviewed by Caltrans District Director Doug Failing as requested by the OPC. Director Failing found that unbundling the project would be neither practical nor economical at the current stage of project development. Caltrans plans to deliver the full original project including both concrete median barriers and pavement rehabilitation. The project schedule is being accelerated. Construction is expected to begin in 2005 and be completed in 2008. Project 3 from Firestone Boulevard to the I-10 will be unbundled and the concrete median barrier portion of the project will be preserved at a cost of approximately \$20 million. There was no update on Project 4. Mr. Powers summarized that a new concrete median barrier will be constructed all the way from the Ports to the I-10 which is what the OPC requested of Caltrans. Member McCarthy commented that any further acceleration that can be accomplished would be appreciated.

Member Pedroza commented on the problem of graffiti on both Caltrans property and on railroad bridges. The CHP indicated that they do attempt enforcement but it is very difficult and resources are limited. Member Peña commented that Assemblyman Firebaugh's bill on this subject did not reach the Assembly floor. After further discussion of tagger behavior, Member De La Torre suggested that local members of Congress be contacted to exert pressure on the railroads to maintain their property.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM OPC MEMBERS. Co-Chair Peña called for comments from OPC members. Co-Chair Peña commented that the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA) would be reporting on its new freight traffic management initiatives at the Long Beach City Council meeting. These efforts will include expanded port hours and on-dock rail. Mr. Powers advised that ACTA will be making the same presentation to the OPC.

Member Pedroza requested Caltrans to advise of any forthcoming landscaping projects.

Member Ramos requested Caltrans to advise of any forthcoming sound-wall projects. Member Ramos commended the members of the Commerce Community Advisory Committee for their dedication and doing a terrific job.

Member Pedroza stated that all the cities are doing their part to move forward. He requested Caltrans to report whether cities could be authorized to paint out graffiti on certain Caltrans property.

Member Dear commented that sound-walls are important not only for noise mitigation but also as a safety feature. Member Dear acknowledged the

presence of Carson resident Ray Park in the audience. Mr. Park will represent the City of Carson on the Tier 2 Committee.

X. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.