

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
Chair – MTA Director Bonnie Lowenthal  
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount  
December 5, 2007**

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Chair Lowenthal at 4:37 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Bonnie Lowenthal – Long Beach, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Frank Gurule – Cudahy, Ken Farfsing – Signal Hill, Bill Pagett, – Paramount, Ray Harris – Supervisor Knabe’s Office, Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, Mohammed Mostahkami – South Gate, Gene Daniels - Paramount.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Elba Guerrero – Huntington Park, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Anne Bayer – Downey, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sharad Mulchand - Metro, Michael Sieckert, – Metro, Richard Powers – Gateway Cities COG, Karen Heit, Nancy Pfeffer – Gateway Cities COG, Jerry Wood – Gateway COG, Steve Hinds – CCDOT, David Hershenson – Metro, Alex Clifford – Gateway Service Sector General Manager, Shashank Patil – Port of Long Beach, Wally Shider – Gateway Service Sector Council, David Rubinaw - SCAG.

A quorum was reached and the Minutes of the November 7, 2007 meeting were approved.

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy to MTA Director Lowenthal gave an overview of the most recent MTA activities on applying for federal grant funds on congestion pricing. The MTA submitted applications for three corridors utilizing existing HOV lanes. There was discussion on creating capacity by charging for carpools and the legality of gas tax utilization for hot lanes. There was general discussion of whether the concept would work in Los Angeles County with so many divergent destinations.

Heit gave a recap of the SCAG Regional Transportation Plan process and the status of the Orangeline Mag-Lev project. SCAG and FHWA were determining what the requirements were for ascertaining a private commitment of funding for the Orangeline project. The Orangeline project is still within the Constrained Plan (considered funded) element of the RTP. There was additional discussion of the status of I-710 project and the freight movement corridor. There were questions about which projects were The SCAG RTP was due for release December 6<sup>th</sup>.

A vote was taken to place an urgency item on the agenda. The item was the draft of a letter to be signed by the GCCOG Board commenting on the allocation of the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) by the California Transportation Commission on

November 27, 2007. The attached letter was approved with amended language discussing GCCOG support of the container fee bill.

A letter supporting the passage of the Maritime Vessels Emissions Reductions Act of 2007 was reviewed and recommended for signature by the COG Board. It was recommended that the letter be sent to individual COG cities urging them to write individual letters of support.

Alex Clifford, Gateway Service Sector General Manager discussed upcoming cuts in revenue service hours, dwindling capacity in park n' ride lots, and the addition of Consent Decree Rapid Bus Lines. He discussed the initiation of service on the new Rapid Bus Line 760 (Long Beach).

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 Executive Director reported on the I-5. The I-5 JPA supports the construction of the full Carmenita Interchange project, and not a scaled back version. The JPA will continue to work with Caltrans and the MTA to assure the project is built as envisioned.

Jerry Wood reported on the I-710 EIR/EIS, the Notice to Proceed was expected to be approved by FHWA next month whereupon the project team can begin work.

The report on the SR 91/605/405 would wait until next month.

Director Lowenthal announced that Long Beach Assistant City Manager Chris Shippey was retiring and moving to San Jose and that Ron Bates was appointed City manager of South Gate.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.