GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Chair – Bonnie Lowenthal, Director, MTA

August 6, 2008, 4:30 PM
Gateway Cities COG Offices
16401 Paramount Blvd.
Paramount, CA

Item No.	Description	Recommended Action
I.	Call to Order – Self Introductions	
II.	Pledge of Allegiance	
III.	Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2008	
IV.	Reports:	
1.	County-wide ½ cent Sales Tax – Update	Receive & File
2.	MTA Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Oral Update	Receive & File
3.	Gateway Cities Service Sector Report Alex Clifford - Gateway Cities Service Sector General Manager	Receive & File
4.	SCAG RTP – Oral Update	Receive & File
5.	Update – I-5 JPA	Receive & File
6.	Update – I-710 EIR/EIS	Receive & File
7.	Update – SR 91/ I-605/I-405 Major Corridor Study	Receive & File
8.	ITS Integration Plan	Receive & File
9.	Truck Inspection Station Study	Receive & File
10.	New Business/Date of Next Meeting	Receive & File
11.	Adjournment	

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE COG OFFICE AT (562) 663-6850. NOTIFICATION 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING WILL ENABLE THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENT TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING.

Item III

Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of June 4, 2008

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
June 4, 2008

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Bonnie Lowenthal at 4:34 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Bonnie Lowenthal – Long Beach, 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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Elba Guerrero – Huntington Park, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Anne Bayer – Downey, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Gene Daniels, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach.

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers – Gateway Cities COG, Karen Heit, Nancy Pfeffer – Gateway Cities COG, Yvette Kirrin – I-5 JPA, Don Jensen – Santa Fe Springs, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, Michael Sieckert – Gateway Cities Sector, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Service Sector, David Hershenson – Metro.

A quorum was reached and the Minutes of the April 4, 2008 meeting were approved.

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy to Director Lowenthal, gave a brief overview of the proposed MTA ½ Cent sales tax initiative and the MTA request for subregional input on additional projects and allocations for funding. She discussed the expenditure plan as listed under the Murray Bill and the potential for additional projects because of the extended time period for the sales tax (from 6.5 years to 30 years). She explained how AB 2321 modified the Murray Bill. She reviewed the City Managers' Steering Committee recommendation to obtain a dedicated return to the COG. There was discussion about the distribution of sales tax proceeds and taxing. The discussion was about tangible congestion relief projects that can be embraced by COG city councils. There was discussion about the benefit from additional bus operations funding.

Heit explained how additional projects would be incorporated into the MTA LRTP as funding priorities. The GCCOG priority projects were reviewed and a Motion was passed to recommend that the GCCOG Board forward these projects to the MTA for inclusion in the sales tax initiative.

Richard Powers, GCCOG Executive Director, gave a report on the nomination of public members of the Gateway Cities Service Sector Council. A Motion was passed to recommend the nomination of Cynde Soto, George Bass and Wally Shidler to the Service Sector Council to the GCCOG Board.

David Hershenson, Gateway Cities Service Sector staff gave a report on the parking issues with the Lakewood and Norwalk Metro Green Line stations. As more people chose to use the Metro system, the parking lots are over subscribed and parking is encroaching into the neighborhoods. Service sector staff is doing a survey of those patrons and working with the affected cities to try and resolve this issue. The MTA has some funds to put towards crafting a solution.

Nancy Pfeffer, GCCOG Direction of Regional Planning, gave a report on the SCAG RTP and the status of the Orangeline Maglev project. The project has been placed in the strategic portion of the plan. She gave an update on the status of the SR-60 truck lanes and Supervisor Molina's motion at the MTA to remove the reference to the SR-60 truck lanes from the RTP and replaced with an alternative technology, east-west corridor.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 JPA Executive Director, discussed the I-5 construction segmentation from the I-605 south. She announced that the Carmenita interchange project was fully funded per approval of additional funding from the MTA. The environmental documentation for the I-5 from the I-605 to the I-710 is proceeding.

Jerry Wood, GCCOG Transportation Engineer, gave an update of the I-710 Corridor EIR/EIS project, including the new project manager and the beginning of the alternative technology report based on the work by the San Pedro Bay Ports. He also reported that most of the community groups were appointed and meeting. He went on to state that there would be a presentation of the recently completed SR-91/I-605/I-405 Needs Assessment before the full COG Board.

Wood went on to discuss the ITS Integrations Study that was wrapping up and that information would be critical to the I-710 project in regards to container volumes. Lastly, he discussed the truck inspection study. The California Highway Patrol wants to participate in the effort to create a state of the art inspection station. The project team is looking at specific sites and will make a presentation to the TC and COG Board in August.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 pm.

IV. Reports

1. County-Wide ½ Cent Sales Tax Update

Transportation Committee Agenda of
August 6, 2008

TO: Transportation Committee

FROM: Bonnie Lowenthal, MTA Board of Directors

SUBJECT: County-wide ½ cent Sales Tax – Update

Background

At the July Board of Directors Meeting, the MTA Board of Directors voted to place a ½ cent sales tax before the voters of Los Angeles County. The wording that will appear on the ballot is as follows:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRAFFIC RELIEF, RAIL EXTENSION, REDUCE OF FOREIGN OIL DEPENDENCE:

- Synchronize traffic signals;
- Repair potholes;
- Extend light rail/connect to airports;
- Improve freeway traffic flow (5, 10, 14, 60, 91,101, 105, 220, 138, 210,405,605, 710)
- Keep senior/ student/disabled bus fares low;
- Provide clean-fuel buses;
- Expand subway/Metrolink/bus service;
- Dedicate millions to each community for traffic relief;

Shall Los Angeles County sales tax increase one-half cent for 30 years with independent audits, public review of expenditures, all locally controlled?

Issue

The MTA Board adopted the ballot language and an Ordinance that reflects projects that were listed in the 2003 Murray Bill and additional projects as nominated by the various subregions. The projects listed in the table will be included in the Ordinance language as well as in AB 2321 which modifies, among other items, the duration of the sales tax from 6 ½ years to 30 years.

In the initial Draft Expenditure Plan, Gateway Cities was assured of receiving $403 million (I-5 projects) and an unspecified amount of highway funds. Gateway Cities was not due any transit capital funds other than the benefit apportioned from the Metro Gold Line Eastern Extension Phase II and from the Regional Connector. The Final Sales Tax Expenditure Plan includes the below listed projects including GCCOG priorities.

Gateway Cities projects included in the sales tax initiative are:

Gateway Cities Projects	Amount (millions)
Highway Projects	
BNSF grade separations	35
I-605 Hot Spot Interchanges	590
I-710 Early Action Projects	590
Project Escalation	895
Below Listed Fully Funded Projects (2008). Funds will remain in the Gateway Cities subregion	
I-5 Improvement (I-605 – OC Line)	265
I-5 Carmenita Interchange	138
Total - Gateway Cities Highway Projects	$2,513 (32.9% of the hwy. allocation)
Transit Projects	
Metro Gold Line Eastern Extension Phase II (Whittier Terminus) (half assigned to Gateway Cities)	635.5
West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor	240
Portion of Regional Connector (downtown LA) assigned to Gateway Cities	32
Project Escalation	324
Total - Gateway Cities Transit Projects	$1,232 (8.9% of total transit allocation)
Gateway Cities Local Return (30-years)	536
Gateway Cities Bus Operations Subsidy (30-years)	305
Total Returned to Gateway Cities (30-years)	4,495
Total Sales Tax Contribution Gateway Cities	6,800
Gateway Cities Percent of Return	66%*

* Does not include % for Metrolink

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