

**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  
August 6, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Gene Daniels called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m. Roll-call was taken by self-introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Daniels –Paramount. Stan Carroll – LA Habra Heights, Frank Gurule – Cudahy, Ray Harris – Supvr. Don Knabe’s Office, Ken Farfsing – City Manager’s Steering Committee, Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, Mohammed Mostahkami – South Gate.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Anne Bayer – Downey, Bonnie Lowenthal – MTA Director, Gordon Stefenhagen - Norwalk, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Bill Pagett – Paramount, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach

OTHERS PRESENT: Alex Clifford – Gateway Cities Service Sector, Yvette Kirrin – Executive Director, I-5 JPA, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Governance Council, Shard Mulchand – Metro, Mike Sieckert – Metro. Richard Powers – GCCOG, Jerry Wood – GCCOG, Nancy Pfeffer – GCCOG, Karen Heit – GCCOG.

Approval of the minutes was held over due to a lack of a quorum

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy to MTA Director Lowenthal, outlined the ballot measure and the vote that came before the MTA at the July Board of Directors Meeting. She reviewed the various “equity” motions that were filed including the Fasana, Lowenthal, Najarian Motion which contained language assuring regional equity based on sales tax collected and subregional need. This Motion as well as a similar Motion proposed by Supvr. Michael Antonovich failed. The Sales Tax initiative item passed and the MTA Board recommended submitting the package to the LA County Board of Supervisors for inclusion in the November ballot. The LA County Board of Supervisors voted to not place the initiative on the ballot. Ray Harris, Transportation Deputy to Supervisor Don Knabe, explained the vote and that the MTA was initiating legal action against the BOS.

Heit reviewed the GCCOG position on the sales tax initiative and discussion ensued on the return on the potential return on the GCCOG cities contribution (66%). There was discussion about the regional reaction to the sales tax measure and keeping the regional effort to achieve future funding equity intact.

Heit gave an update on the MTA Long Range Transportation Plan which is on hold until after the results of the November election.

Alex Clifford, Gateway Service Sector General Manager, gave an overview of parking problems at the Norwalk and Lakewood Metro Green Line (MGL) Stations. He described neighborhood complaints at both locations regarding parking spill-over. Clifford also discussed the parking issues with the Metro Blue Line now that the casino had closed its gates. Mayor Daniels brought up the parking shuttles run by the City of Paramount from the Wal-Mart lot to the Green Line to help ease the parking situation. Clifford is looking at leasing parking from a church near the Norwalk station as an interim solution and is looking for funding to develop a more long-term solution.

Nancy Pfeffer, GCCOG Director of Regional Planning, reported on the update to the SCAG 2008 RTP. The plan is undergoing a revision to include the Congestion Pricing project "Hot Lanes" as proposed by the MTA. The RTP will be amended in December (or shortly thereafter) when the MTA revises the LA County LRTP.

The I-5 Executive Director Yvette Kirrin passed out a graphic that outlined the construction sequencing plan for the I-5. She reviewed the relationship between project costs and schedule. For the Carmenita Interchange project, most appraisals are completed and offers tendered. There is a significant water contamination issue that may impact construction design to keep contaminated water out of the aquifer. The change may require a spread footing that will impact the look, and cost of the structure. Kirrin went on to explain that because of funding restrictions, there may be simultaneous construction on various portions of the I-5. Alondra Bridge may be closed and Alondra will be impacted by the Valley View interchange.

Jerry Wood, GCCOG Transportation Engineer, reported on activities associated with the I-710 Corridor EIR/EIS project, including meetings of all of the community groups. He went on to state that the much of the modeling was underway and assumptions were being developed for discussion.

Under new business; Mohammed Mostahkami from South Gate brought up the graffiti on the Union Pacific Rail bridges spanning the I-710. Mayor Gene Daniels brought up the trash on the UP r.o.w. at the Metro Blue Line. There was discussion and a recommendation was made to discuss these items with UP Chairman Jim Young the following week.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.