

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – Anne M. Bayer, President, Board of Directors
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount
September 3, 2008**

Call to order and roll call. Gateway Cities Council of Governments President Anne Bayer called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Anne Bayer – Downey, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Gene Daniels – Paramount, 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, Gordon Stefenhagen – Norwalk, Frank Gurule – Cudahy, 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, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, Tonia Reyes-Uranga – Long Beach, Michael Sieckert – Gateway Cities Sector, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Service Sector, David Hershenson – Metro – Sharad Mulchand, Metro, Sumire Gant – Long Beach, Melissa Hewitt – Kimley-Horn, Alice Tolbert-Wiggins –Parsons & Brinckerhoff.

Approval of the minutes was delayed due to a lack of a quorum

Jerry Wood, COG Transportation Engineer introduced the Gateway Cities ITS Integration Plan The focus of the plan is the utilization of technology to move goods more efficiently. The plan is a collaboration of private and public sector interests who will work to assure that real time traffic data is used to reduce traffic congestion, fuel and increase safety.

Melissa Hewitt, from Kimley-Horn, project manager for the ITS Integration Plan reviewed the study objectives to bring technology to drayage. She reviewed the informational needs for successful project integration and the use of real time traffic information. The drayage and logistics industry has well defined needs for real-time information to save both time and fuel. The public will benefit from trucks not accessing arterials and freeways during congested periods. The ITS Plan also covers the vehicle inspection aspect using technology to decrease inspection dwell time.

Next steps could include the following prioritized projects:

- Implement federal/local projects, after the feasibility of different project elements are analyzed.
- Increase utility of existing Caltrans IT system fiber optics/signage.
- Examine potential for use of real time information in managing I-710 construction

A quorum was reached and minutes from June 4, 2006 and August 6, 2008 were approved.

Stephanie Wiggins, MTA Executive Officer for Congestion Pricing gave a presentation on the latest program and was seeking GCCOG input on the project. The US Department of Transportation had reviewed the latest changes in MTA's program development and approved the change. The funding is now being considered for the conversion of existing carpool lanes on the I-110 and the I-210 freeways. Two-person carpools are anticipated to be charged a toll at the same rate as a single occupancy vehicle and the toll lanes are to be up and running by December of 2010. State Senator Mark Ridley-Thomas is sponsoring a bill that will allow for carpool lane conversion. There are concerns about the project including the displacement of low-income carpools. These concerns will be addressed as the program matures. Wiggins advised that there are two upcoming community hearings on the lane conversion in Carson, September 11 and 12. She discussed the financial plan that had tolls covering the operations and maintenance of the lanes as well as providing some operations funding for parallel bus service. The end of the I-110 carpool lane would be restriped but not widened to ease existing off the I-110 lane. There were questions and some discussion about the reasonableness and actual need for the project and the December 2010 start date.

Under new business, the committee asked that staff investigate having Union Pacific or BNSF railroads appear on a quarterly basis to discuss railroad issues with the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.