

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Diane DuBois
Gateway Cities COG Office
16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723
March 4, 2009**

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Diane DuBois – Lakewood, Anne Bayer – Downey, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Ron Bates – South Gate, Bill Pagett, – Paramount, Ray Harris – Supervisor Knabe’s Office, Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, Mohammed Mostahkami – South Gate, Jolene Hayes – Port of Long Beach, Frank Gurule - Cudahy

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Gordon Stefenhagen – Cudahy, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach

OTHERS PRESENT: Alex Clifford – Gateway Cities Service Sector, Michael Sieckert – Gateway Cities Service Sector, Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, Sharad Mulchand – Metro.

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy, reviewed the February Board highlights:

- The approval of the funding allocation from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the two funding scenarios. There were questions about the various deadlines and the requirements cities needed to comply with to receive funding.
- The Board approved the Knabe Najarian O’Connor Fasana DuBois Antonovich Motion expanding the Ridership Relief Program other LA County transit operators that raised fares. There were questions about the availability of the funds through social service agencies.
- Review of the Rail Car Storage issues associated with the cost construction of new rail lines.

Director DuBois presented an overview of the 2009 Call for Projects highlighting the schedule and due dates, the additional requirements and the establishment of a goods movement category within Regional Surface Transportation projects. She indicated that letters of support needed to be included in the project application package. She explained that the type and amount of funding would not be known until April, but the estimate was around \$400 million.

Director DuBois further reviewed the MTA Board actions taken on the Economic Stimulus Funds and outlined the two scenarios for funding. There was a discussion

about the RSTP process and whether the Caltrans Local Assistance Office could process the applications in time to meet the federal deadlines. The Caltrans

District Director had indicated that his staff was capable of processing the applications. There was a question about whether projects that are being applied to TEA funds are deducted from the applicant city's application. There was an additional comment about the May 18th obligation date following so soon after the STPL application deadline of May 15th.

Alex Clifford, Gateway Cities Service Sector General Manager, discussed the parking issues at Norwalk and Lakewood stations. Dave Hershenson reported on the windshield drop survey results. MTA will continue to work with the community and cities to resolve this issue. The City of Bellflower is looking at parking as is Cerritos. The City of Paramount is instituting a park n' ride with a shuttle from the Wal-mart parking lot.

There was no I-5 update.

Jerry Wood, Gateway COG Engineer, gave an update on the I-710 Corridor project. The cargo forecast figures have been accepted and the geometric plans are undergoing refinement and the traffic modeling has been done. The project has moved to alternatives definition and the public participation are underway.

Wood also discussed the SR-91/I-605/I-405 project and the use of Measure "R" funds to help define the projects. The community priorities have been forwarded to Caltrans for review. He commented on SCAG projections on the I-405 study and the transit corridor extension. Metrolink expansion and California High Speed Rail have made presentations before the TAC and community group.

There was no OLDA meeting Karen Heit relayed the on-going search for a new Executive Director. She also pointed that OCTA is slightly behind in acceptance of the Los Angeles/Orange Inter-County Transportation Study. Ron Bates discussed the Executive Director selection.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm