

GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Chair – Diane Dubois, Director, MTA

October 7, 2009, 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.	Meeting Minutes of July, August, September 2009	Approval
IV.	Reports:	
1.	Metro Gold Line Eastern Extension – Phase II MTA Staff – Gerry Alvarez, Tam Nguyen	Discussion/Action
2.	Gateway Cities Transportation Projects Review & Strategic Plan Summary – Jerry Wood	Discussion/Action
3.	MTA Long Range Plan – Update	Discussion/Action
4.	Support Resolution – MTA New Starts	Discussion/Action
5.	Union Pacific – Update by Lupe Valdez	Receive & File
6.	California High Speed Rail Authority Report Fred Latham and Alex Clifford	Receive & File
7.	Update – Gateway Cities Service Sector Report Dana Coffey , General Manager	Receive & File
8.	Update – I-5 JPA	Receive & File
9.	Update – I-710 EIR/EIS	Receive & File

10. Update - SR 91/I-605/405 Major Corridor Study Receive & File
11. Update – Orangeline Development Authority Receive & File
12. New Business/Date of Next Meeting
13. 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 July 1, 2009

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Diane DuBois
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount
July 1, 2009**

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Diane Dubois at 4:36 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Diane DuBois – Lakewood, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Gordon Stefenhagen – Norwalk, Ray Harris – Supervisor Knabe, Ken Farfsing – Signal Hill, Bill Pagett - Paramount, Mohammed Mostahkami – South Gate

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Anne Bayer – Downey, Frank Gurule – Cudahy, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers – Gateway Cities COG, Karen Heit – Gateway Cities COG, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Service Sector, David Hershenson – Metro, Yvette Kirrin – I-5 JPA, Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, Jon Grace – Metro, Brad McAllester – Metro, Diego Cardoso – Metro, Gary Hamrick – Iteris, Lee Ward – Iteris, Ernest Morales – Metro, David Yale - Metro

Diane DuBois, MTA Director, reviewed the April Board Highlights:

- Using formula allocated American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds the MTA Board authorized the purchase of 150 buses.
- Approved an item that authorized the installation of CPUC approved platform mounted between light rail car barriers.
- The Board approved the replacement of 20 Traction Power Substations (TPSS) for the Blue Line using ARRA funds.

All of the ARRA funded projects will save energy through the purchase of newer more efficient buses and new TPSS units that are more efficient.

- The Board approved the design/build contract for the I-405 HOV lane and expansion of various City streets. ARRA funds were budgeted as replacement for anticipated Prop IB funds.
- Fasana Motion – Proposed allocating ARRA funds to enhance a CDBG grant. Repayment of ARRA funds were guaranteed with future Measure Local Return receipts.
- Molina Motion – Renamed the Gold Line Eastside Linea d'oro Edward Roybal.

Transportation Committee Minutes of
July 1, 2009

Director DuBois discussed the allocation of ARRA streets and highways discretionary funding allocated to the cities. Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy reviewed the Gateway Cities submissions and announced that to date no Gateway city was in danger of losing funding. There was discussion about five projects that were in jeopardy of violating the MTA May 18th deadline due to an issue with the FTIP amendment process.

A quorum was announced and the June minutes were approved.

Alex Clifford, Gateway Service Sector General Manager, discussed the new CEO's goals for bus operations:

- On-time performance is a contract with the rider, buses should not run "hot".
- Reduction in road calls
- Clean buses

Bus operations is to return to basics and apply best practices for improved customer service.

Director DuBois reported on her tour of the Metro Red Line rail maintenance facility and Gateway Service Sector Bus Division 2. She also reported on her trip to the Long Beach Transit facility.

Gerry Alvarez, Central Area Team Project Manager, gave an update on the work associated with the environmental phase of the Metro old Lone Eastern Extension (MGLEE). He discussed the Alternatives Analysis (AA) and the resultant four potential alignments. He reviewed the analysis points that went into the AA and how the 17 options were reduced to four. Staff is looking for comments from the COG and Alignment cities that relate to the scoping process. This comment period would last through September. He then went on to identify various issues with each of the four remaining alignments. There was a brief discussion on each alignment and potential fatal flaws.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 JPA Executive Director reviewed project progress and the potential for expiring funds.

Jerry Wood, COG Engineer, gave an update on the I-710 Project Committee meeting and the including concurrence with the project alternatives.

Wood went on to report on the development of early action projects for the SR-91/I-405/I-605. The TAC has submitted comments along with Caltrans.

Next month's meeting will be August 5.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Item III

Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of August 5, 2009

Transportation Committee Minutes of
August 5, 2009

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Diane DuBois
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount
August 5, 2009**

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Gordon Stefenhagen, Gateway Cities COG President at 4:36 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Gordon Stefenhagen – Norwalk, Ray Harris – Supervisor Knabe, Ken Farfsing – Signal Hill, Bill Pagett - Paramount, Mohammed Mostahkami – South Gate, Frank Gurule - Cudahy

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Chair Diane DuBois – Lakewood, Gil Hurtado – South Gate, Gene Daniels – Paramount, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Powers – Gateway Cities COG, Karen Heit – Gateway Cities COG, Jerry Wood – Gateway Cities COG, Wally Shidler – Gateway Cities Service Sector, David Hershenson – Metro, Ernest Morales – Metro, Bruce Barrows – Cerritos, Mike Kodama – OLDA, Michael Sieckert – Gateway Cities Service Sector

Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy gave the MTA Board highlights on behalf of MTA Director Diane DuBois. She gave an overview of the June and July MTA Board Meetings highlighting the issue with the presentation of a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) that did not have a fully articulated Highway Element. The LRTP revision was centered around incorporating the Measure R commitments into the plan, making the lack of a funded highway element a problem. She also outlined an issue with the MTA Federal Transit Administration “New Starts” submissions. Gateway Cities stands to benefit from the completion of a project known as the Regional Connector, which connects the Long Beach Blue Line to the Pasadena Gold Line.

Through much discussion and negotiation, adoption of the incomplete plan was deferred until the September meeting. Integral to the deferment was the submission of letters from the four LA County Council of Governments requesting that the LRTP be deferred pending the creation of an acceptable highway element.

The development of a highway element would be assisted by the creation of an all-county stakeholders group to assist with plan development. The Public Works Directors Committee selected Lisa Rapp from the City of Lakewood to represent Gateway Cities.

David Hershenson, Gateway Service Sector Communications Manager announced the reassignment of Alex Clifford, Gateway Service Sector General Manager, to become the point person for Intercounty rail included the California High Speed Rail Authority activities. He reported that Dana Coffey, Southbay Service Sector General Manager, would be assuming leadership of the Gateway Sector. Other changes in the Sector support would be occurring over the following months.

Transportation Committee Minutes of
August 5, 2009

Jerry Wood, COG Engineer, gave an update on the I-710 Project, the traffic modeling is underway and the results will be used to update the geometric plans. The updated plans will be reviewed by the Subject Working Groups and Local Advisory Committees for comment. A scope of work is being prepared for a specialized utility plan to deal with utilities.

Jerry Wood gave background and a PowerPoint presentation on the SR-91/I-605/I-405 project. The study covers 35 miles of freeway. Traffic projects have been generated and the number of lanes identified to handle that traffic volume. Congestion "hotspots" have been identified. He reviewed the Guiding Principles adopted by the Executive Committee and how these principles would be used in creating potential solutions such as additional lanes within the existing ROW, arterial improvements, ITS and transit options. Many of the solutions would come from additional work on The Los Angeles/Orange County Intercounty Study. Wood ask that the Committee forward a recommendation to the COG Board to work with other stakeholders (Caltrans, MTA) to procure a Feasibility Analysis to further define buildable project.

Michael Kodama, OLDA Executive Director, gave a report on the OLDA submission of a Federal Railroad Administration grant for high speed rail to look at the OLDA project from Los Angeles Union Station to Palmdale.

Mohammad Mostahkami, City of South Gate discussed an issue with the MTA purposed redirection of excess or over-budgeted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.

Next month's meeting will be September 2.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Item III

Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of September 2, 2009

**Transportation Committee Minutes of
September 2, 2009**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair – MTA Director Diane DuBois
Gateway Cities Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd. , Paramount
September 2, 2009**

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order by Chair Diane DuBois at 4:36 p.m. Roll call was taken by self introduction.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Diane DuBois – Lakewood, Stan Carroll – La Habra Heights, Ray Harris – Supervisor Knabe, Mohammed Mostahkami – South Gate, Gene Daniels - Paramount

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Gordon Stefenhagen - Norwalk, Gil Hurtado – South Gate, Frank Gurule – Cudahy, Bill Pagett – Paramount, Ken Farfsing – Signal Hill, Fred Latham – Santa Fe Springs, Eric Shen – Port of Long Beach

OTHERS PRESENT: Karen Heit – Gateway Cities COG, Ernest Morales – Metro, Brynn Kernaghan – Long Beach Transit, Dana M. Coffey – Metro

Councilmember Diane DuBois, MTA Director began the meeting by announcing that the MTA did not have Board of Director’s Meeting in August and there was no Board update. She also announced that the Metro Green Line Eastern Extension Phase II presentation was pulled from the agenda by the MTA.

Susan Richan, MTA Project Manager gave an overview of the draft Measure R Local Return Guidelines. She discussed the project development process and the participants. The stakeholder group went through eight iterations. Richan discussed the flexibility of funds and the forms developed to maximize the flexibility. She reviewed the differences between Prop A&C Local Return Guidelines and the Measure R Guidelines, highlighting the flexibility of the Measure R Guidelines. There was a discussion of the Maintenance of Effort requirement under AB 2321 and how Measure R receipts can be used to backfill loss of other local funds. She reviewed the schedule for guideline adoption, with the adoption due in October. Cities can start utilizing the funding as soon as assurances are received by the MTA. Richan discussed the current funding estimates and revenue due date. The estimates were six months and full year estimates. Mohammad Mostahkami spoke about the process and complimented the MTA staff on the process. Karen Heit gave a quick update on the 2009 Call for Projects and the anticipated September adoption.

Heit reviewed the LRTP process to date:

- She reviewed the progress of the Highway Advisory Committee and the development of the LRTP Highway Element. GCCOG representative submitted the timelines and funding requirements for the SR-91/I-605/I-405 “Hot Spot”

Transportation Committee Minutes of September 2, 2009

projects and the I-710 project. The MTA incorporated the schedules into the highway element and identified funding for the projects.

- The COG was represented by City of Lakewood Director of Public Works, Lisa Rapp. Rapp was supported by Jerry Wood, Steve Forrester, Mohammed Mostakhami, Bill Pagett, Desi Alvarez and Karen Heit
- She discussed the potential candidate transit projects for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) "New Starts". The two highest ranked projects are the Subway western extension and the Regional Connector. She outlined the benefits of the Regional Connector to the Gateway Cities Blue Line.
- She discussed the need for consensus in project selection and in the presentation made to the federal government.
- She reviewed the draft federal advocacy program and the objectives.

Heit discussed the draft 3% contribution to transit outlining some of the issues that would need to be defined or clarified before such a policy should be adopted. Heit discussed the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) and meetings that were held in Commerce and Vernon. There were discussions concerning the alignment, scoping documents and other information not shared. There are flaws with the program EIR/EIS and the project EIR/EIS that require resolution.

Dana Coffey the new General Manager for the Gateway Cities Service Sector Council introduced herself and discussed the working relationship she will establish between the South Bay Service Sector and the Gateway Cities Sector.

Yvette Kirrin, I-5 JPA Executive Director reviewed progress on the I-5 project I-605 to the Orange County Line. The Valley View project is 40% complete and the I-5 project is expected to go to bid by 2010. The JPA is in the process of identifying enhancements that were removed during value engineering and construction engineering.

Jerry Wood, COG Engineer, gave an update on the I-710 traffic modeling. The early action scheduled was reviewed by the TAC. Project Committee meeting and the including concurrence with the project alternatives.

Wood went on to report on the SR-91/I-405/I-605 and the inclusion and identification of projects for the LRTP. The plan is to do the necessary studies to get the projects ready for construction. The MTA is programming funding for these studies. He indicated he would make the Public Works Officer presentation to the Transportation Committee next month.

Karen Heit reported that the OLDA had applied for an FRA grant for Los Angeles/Palmdale planning work. The application was moving through the approval process.

Next month's meeting will be October 7.

The meeting adjourned at 5:48pm.

IV. Reports

3. MTA Long Range Plan Update

Transportation Committee Agenda of
 October 7, 2009

TO: Transportation Committee
FROM: Diane Dubois, MTA Director
BY: Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy
SUBJECT: MTA Long Range Plan - Update

Issue

The MTA is trying to update the 2001 LRTP to incorporate the Measure R projects. Inclusion in the LRTP is the first step in amending projects into the Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP) making them eligible for federal funding.

In July, the MTA Board voted to delay LRTP adoption until September to allow for the highway element to be articulated with schedules and funding plans for the Measure R highway commitments. In response to the Board direction, MTA staff convened a Measure R Highway Advisory Committee inviting the COGs and other interested stakeholders to assist with the development of the highway element. The Committees work is a contributing factor in delaying the LRTP adoption to October.

October Highway Issues/Status:

Issue	Status
Lack of a highway funding plan for the LRTP and Measure R projects: this jeopardizes federal money as the projects are not planned out to be included in the LRTP Constrained element. MTA creates an Advisory Committee to assist with this task.	The Advisory Committee members contributed project implementation schedules for major infrastructure initiatives. These schedules have been matched with proposed funding.
What do the Measure R dollars leverage? Much of the State hwy eligible funding is matching federal transit and Measure R dollars. Measure R comprises approximately one-third of total project funding.	MTA has identified potential funding sources to leverage Measure R tax dollars. Potential funding sources include; Public/Private/Partnerships –Tolls, Container Fees, High Speed Rail funds, PUC, SHOPP, Cap/Trade, FRA, federal formula funds, High Priority project Funds/Projects of National Significance, and proposed Metropolitan Area Funding,

**Transportation Committee Agenda of
October 7, 2009**

<p>Gateway projects – Measure R are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I-605 Hot Spots - \$590 million • I-710 Early Action - \$590 million <p>The original allocation for the LRTP assumed only the Measure R funds without other state/local/federal funds to match. This was not acceptable and MTA staff was tasked with leveraging dollars</p>	<p>Leverage potential for GCCOG projects (assuming 80% federal/state - 20% local match Measure R)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I-605 Hot Spots - \$2.95 billion • I-710 Early Action \$3 billion I-710 Early Action <p>The I-605 estimate is for all potential identified projects. The I-710 estimate is for a portion of the projects that can be completed (estimates provided by Jerry Wood)</p>
<p>What is the thought and strategy for federal highway earmarks and allocation?</p>	<p>MTA is refining the federal strategy maximizing highway funds.</p>

The estimated funding plans for the two GCCOG highway initiatives assumes a 10-year cash flow of:

- \$271 million for the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Hot Spots,
- \$308 million for the I-710 Early Action Projects and
- \$1,199 billion for the I-710 South.

Funding for the I-710 South project assumes Public/Private/Partnership funding for much of the project. Over the next few months the MTA will produce a Public-Private-Partnership (3P) strategy with an in-depth analysis for several candidate transit and highway projects. The cash flows presented are consistent with the COG’s estimated need. Cash flows for the out-years are tentative and will require review and adjustment as the projects are implemented.

Recommendation

The MTA Board may adopt an LRTP in October. In preparation, the GCCOG should draft a letter suggesting the following:

- The MTA create a Short Range Transportation Plan that reflects five year increments of LRTP implementation.
- The MTA pursue 3P funding for the I-710 South project.
- Efforts be made to pursue funding strategies such as supporting the establishment of a Federal Infrastructure Bank.

IV. Reports

4. Support Resolution MTA New Starts

Transportation Committee Agenda of
October 7, 2009

TO: Transportation Committee
FROM: Diane DuBois, MTA Director
BY: Karen Heit, Transportation Deputy
SUBJECT: Support Resolution – MTA New Starts

Issue

There will be approximately \$8 billion available nationwide for new transit infrastructure projects through reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU. This current bill will probably be extended for 18-months. Transportation agencies nationwide have and are submitting projects for the Federal Transportation Administration's (FTA) New Starts program for major rail transit construction projects. New Starts projects are major transit capital projects that require more than \$75 million in federal funds and have a total capital cost of more than \$250 million. This funding is for transit capital projects only and is not eligible for highway usage. Over the past six years the MTA has received an average \$80 million per year in federal rail funding. The Metro Gold Line Eastern Extension is the most current recipient of federal funds.

On September 24, 2009, the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) voted unanimously to pursue long-term federal funding from the FTA to construct the Regional Connector and Westside Subway Extension in order to secure Los Angeles's County's fair share of federal rail funding through the FTA "New Starts" program. Submitting these projects to the FTA for consideration is the first step in receiving federal funding.

These two projects, given current federal New Starts requirements are expected to score highly in the rankings necessary to secure a Full Funding Grant Agreement. They both score high in generation of new riders, cost per new rider and other FTA criteria. An essential consideration for FTA funding approval is project consensus.

The next step will be to include the projects and their delivery schedules in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Inclusion in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is the first step in the RTIP process.

These two projects both provide major countywide benefit. The Regional Connector provides direct benefit to southeast Los Angeles by eliminating the turn around movement for both the Expo Line and the Blue Line in the Metro Center Station by completing the downtown Los Angeles segment between the Metro Blue Line and the Pasadena Gold Line. Trains will continue through and both lines can decrease headways providing more frequent service.

Transportation Committee Agenda of
October 7, 2009

The construction of the Regional Connector will allow the Blue Line to maintain existing headways.

The Westside Subway Extension provides an important transit link to the West Los Angeles employment centers from all areas of the county.

Recommendation

The attached Resolution expresses COG support for the MTA New Starts submission. Upon approval, this Resolution will be forwarded to the COG Congressional delegation and the MTA.

Attachment

Resolution of Support

Transportation Committee Agenda of
October 7, 2009

Resolution of Support for MTA New Starts Project Submission

On September 24, 2009, the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) voted unanimously to pursue long-term federal funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation to construct the Regional Connector and Westside Subway Extension in order to secure Los Angeles's County's fair share of federal rail funding through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) "New Starts" Program.

These two projects, given current federal New Starts requirements are expected to score highly in the rankings necessary to secure a Full Funding Grant Agreement.

The 27 cities of the Gateway Cities Council of Government fully support the submission of the Regional Connector and the Westside Subway Extension as Los Angeles County's priorities for FTA New Starts funding.

The Regional Connector directly benefits residents of southeast Los Angeles County by improving connectivity to other Los Angeles County subregions through a "one seat" ride. The Regional Connector also benefits light rail operations on the Metro Blue Line, the nation's best performing light rail line.

Extending the Westside Subway will make the west Los Angeles employment centers available by rail transit to the majority of Los Angeles County.