

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
16401 Paramount Boulevard  
Paramount, California  
March 2, 2011**

President Hurtado called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**PRESENT:** President Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate  
First Vice President Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower  
Second Vice President Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Immediate Past President Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk  
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia  
Member Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens  
Member Bruce Barrows, City of Cerritos  
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton  
Member Josue Barrios, City of Cudahy  
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Alberto Perez, City of Montebello  
Member David Armenta, City of Pico Rivera  
Member Joe Serrano, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier  
Member Vincent Harris, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Member Angie Castro, Office of Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Member Rick Velasquez, Office of Supervisor Don Knabe

**ABSENT:** Member Bob Kennedy, City of Avalon  
Member George Mirabal, City of Bell  
Member Joe Aguilar, City of Commerce  
Member Luis Marquez, City of Downey  
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights  
Member Susan Tripp, City of La Mirada  
Member Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach  
Member Maria Teresa Santillan, City of Lynwood  
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Ex Officio Member Richard Steinke, Port of Long Beach  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing, Chair, City Managers  
Steering Committee; La Mirada Director of Public Works Steve Forster; South

Gate Director of Public Works Mohammad Mostahkami; Pico Rivera Deputy Director of Community Development Julia Gonzalez; Fred Latham, Retired City Manager, Santa Fe Springs; Curt Pederson, retired Chief of Staff for Supervisor Don Knabe; Niki Tennant, District Director for Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal; Lauren Rank, Program Manager, Los Angeles County Office of Sustainability; Craig Perkins, Executive Director, Energy Coalition; Michael Tang, Energy Coalition; Barbara Levine, Senior Regional Manager, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation; Metro Community Relations Manager David Hershensen; Metro Community Relations Manager Danelle Valentino; Metro Project Manager Adrian Alvarez; I-5 Joint Powers Authority Executive Director Yvette Kirrin; SCAG Public Affairs Officer Matt Horton; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Tom Ionta, Senior Project Manager, CH2M Hill; Juan Carlos Velasquez, Project Manager, CH2M Hill; Susan DeSantis, Senior Associate, Arellano Associates; Chester Britt, Project Director, Arellano Associates; Scott Broten, Principal, ICF International; Joel Roberts, Chief Executive Officer, PATH Partners; Frank Osgood, Author of Region Aroused; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG General Counsel Richard D. Jones; Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Transportation Deputy Karen Heit; GCCOG Engineer Jerry Wood; GCCOG Director of Regional Planning Nancy Pfeffer.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Curt Pederson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

President Hurtado presented a plaque to Curt Pederson, retired Chief of Staff to Supervisor Don Knabe, recognizing Mr. Pederson for his many years of service to the County and to the Gateway Cities. Mr. Pederson thanked the Board of Directors and introduced Rick Velasquez, his successor as Chief of Staff.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Armenta, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Lauren Rank, Program Manager for the Los Angeles County Office of Sustainability, gave a brief introduction to the County's Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles County program. She introduced Craig Perkins, Executive Director of the Energy Coalition, who gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the County's program of rebates to homeowners who make specified energy saving improvements to their properties. He encouraged the Board members to have their cities promote the program among their residents.

First Vice President Dunton asked if multi-family properties are eligible for the program. Mr. Perkins responded the County is moving forward with a commercial building program that is hoped to be launched in about six months. First Vice President Dunton asked about the applicability to apartments. Mr. Perkins said the County is going to engage a pilot program for about fifty properties in the County. He said a program with the utility companies may launch at the end of the year.

It was moved by Second Vice President Daniels, seconded by Member Armenta, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Barbara Levine, Senior Regional Manager for the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) presented a report on the current economy in Los Angeles County and the Gateway Cities region. She said the economy seems to be growing everywhere except in state and local governments. She described the three major sectors as entertainment, where film shootings are up, international trade, which is significantly increasing at the ports, and tourism, which is also on the upswing. She said that more requests are being made for warehouse sites near the ports, and more hotels are in the planning stage.

As for the Gateway Cities area, Ms. Levine said that housing is lagging and prospects for the aerospace industry are uncertain. She said the economy is beginning to recover, but many small machine shops and manufacturing companies have reduced their number of employees in order to hold on. She said retail sales are better than they were a year ago. She said signs of recovery are there, but it is not happening as quickly as they would like. Improvement in the unemployment rate still lags. She said LAEDC's Business Retention Program with the SELACO Workforce Investment Board terminates at the end of the month.

President Hurtado asked about the effect of the increase in gasoline prices. Ms. Levine responded that they are very cautious about that.

It was moved by Member Nordbak, seconded by Member Armenta, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Fred Latham addressed the Board regarding the final version of the Gateway Cities Homeless Action Plan, which was before the Board for adoption. He said the plan had been presented to the Committee on Homelessness as well as representative of the stakeholder alliances, and that they were recommending adoption.

Mr. Latham introduced Joel Roberts, Chief Executive Officer of PATH Partners, who developed the plan under funding from the County of Los Angeles. Mr. Roberts summarized the key points of the plan. He said, depending on which estimates are used, there are between 6,000 and 14,000 homeless in the Gateway Cities region. He said about \$30 million in funding is already coming into the region in various ways. He said the County of Los Angeles has committed \$1.2 million annually to fund homeless programs in the Gateway Cities. The proposed plan's elements include getting the

homeless into permanent housing, leveraging other resources, and targeting “hot spots” of homeless. Implementation accomplished through a contract with a regional program implementation agency.

Mr. Latham said if the Board adopts the plan, staff will develop an RFP for a regional program implementation agency. Mr. Latham said what we would have that we don't have now is a process of collaboration of services and a regional responsible agency.

Member O'Donnell expressed his compliments on the work that has been done.

Second Vice President Daniels asked how a situation is handled where a homeless person won't accept help. Mr. Roberts responded, saying that PATH has experienced counselors and has found that if you continue to engage them, you can eventually get the reluctant homeless into housing.

Member Guerrero thanked Mr. Latham and PATH Partners for all their work.

It was moved by Member Guerrero, seconded by Member Armenta, to adopt the Gateway Cities Homeless Action Plan. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Director of Regional Planning provided an update on the Gateway Cities Sustainable Communities Strategy. She said staff and the consultants have been collecting data from the cities on transportation projects, working to identify the regional scale and the estimated greenhouse gas reductions. She said they were following up on transportation demand management projects and had nine responses so far. She reported that SCAG has developed a sustainability tool to measure the effects of land use changes and cities are currently reviewing the data. Finally, she said, SCAG has agreed to provide the 2005 baseline numbers.

It was moved by Member Armenta, seconded by Second Vice President Daniels, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Conservancy Committee.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He reported that the consultants have been updating the geometric plans, the public/private partnership study involving tolling options is ongoing and will be brought to the Project Committee, and the Project Committee had approved the Technical Advisory Committee recommendation to do sound walls early.

Jerry Wood presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the “Hot Spots” Feasibility Study is underway and should be completed in about a year. The Executive Director said the project had already received its first \$590 million in funding through Measure R.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Second Vice President Daniels, to

receive and file the reports from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee and the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member DuBois reported that the Transportation Committee did not have a quorum that evening. She introduced Scott Broten, Principal of ICF International, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed community participation framework for the Gateway Cities Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). He said the objectives of the AQAP are: to determine and quantify the existing air and health quality setting; determine the effectiveness of planned near-term improvements; analyze possible new improvements; develop a conceptual plan to implement and measure air quality improvements; and work with regional, state, and federal agencies responsible for air pollution control and enforcement. He referred the Board to the proposed framework for development of the AQAP, showing the work flow from technical working groups, subject working groups, and advisory and technical committees that ultimately would go to an Environmental Committee, the COG's Transportation Committee and City Managers Steering Committee, and, finally, to the Board of Directors.

It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Second Vice President Daniels, to approve the community participation framework for the development of the Gateway Cities Air Quality Action Plan. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Committee on Homelessness.

Fred Latham presented a report on the California High Speed Rail project. He reported that great strides had been made in reaching the goal of minimizing the impact of the project on the cities. He said the EIR has been pushed back two years by the decision to move forward first on the Central Valley segment of the high-speed rail project. He said it gives more time to evaluate impacts. He said Jerry Wood had come up with a shared services approach from Los Angeles to Anaheim with far fewer impacts. He said the California High Speed Rail Authority Board would be considering this on Thursday for further study. Mr. Latham said it appears that the Los Angeles to San Diego segment will not impact COG cities. However, Mr. Latham said, the California High Speed Rail Authority had terminated Jerry Wood's contract.

It was moved by First Vice President Dunton, seconded by Member Serrano, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin presented a report from the I-5 JPA. She said all sections of Phase I of the project are either in construction mitigation or will be within 45 days. She said the Carmenita Road project will be out to bid on March 4, with award to occur in mid-May. It was moved by Member Armenta, seconded by Member Serrano, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. Regarding the state budget, she said the League Board agreed that it will sue under Proposition 22 if the Legislature eliminates redevelopment. She said there are three parts to the

Governor's budget proposal: realignment of services to counties; elimination of redevelopment; and extension of temporary taxes for five years. It was moved by Member Barrows, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Matt Horton presented a report from SCAG. He said SCAG is seeking applications for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual COMPASS Blueprint Awards. He announced that the SCAG General Assembly will be held in May. It was moved by Member Armenta, seconded by Member Serrano, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Transportation Deputy presented a report from the Orangeline Development Authority. She said the OLDA Board had sent a letter to the SCAG steering committee for the Pacific Electric Railway right of way analysis seeking to get the alternatives analysis back on track. She said they want slow speed Maglev to have a fair look. It was moved by Member Armenta, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

David Hershensen presented a report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector. He said public hearings were held last month on the proposed service changes. He said the changes were being modified as a result. It was moved by Member Armenta, seconded by Member Nordbak, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the Conservation Corps of Long Beach.

There was no report from the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

There were no matters from the President.

**Adjournment:** It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.