

Minutes

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority

METRO SOUTH BAY SERVICE SECTOR GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

Carson Community Center
801 E. Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745

Called to Order at 9:35 A.M.

Council Members present:

Jim Hendrickson, Vice Chair
Margaret Hudson
John McTaggart
Lou Mitchell
Curren Price
Howard Sachar

Officers:

Dana Coffey, General Manager
Rich Morallo, Community Relations Manager
Sharon Sterling, Council Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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Vice Chair Jim Hendrickson announced that he would preside over the Council Meeting in Chair Terisa Price's absence; and Ms. Cynthia Karpman, Division Transportation Manager, Carson Division 18 would act on behalf of General Manager Dana Coffey. Ms. Price and Ms. Coffey were attending the APTA Conference.

1. Safety 1st Contact

Ms. Karpman advised motorists to use hands-free equipment when talking on a cell phone while driving. Actually, she states it's best to avoid using the cell phone and pay close attention to the surroundings.

2. PRESENTATION of safety contest certificates by Mr. Hendrickson and Ms. Karpman.

Ms. Gloria Dacus, Leader Girl Scout Troop 420; and

Mr. Theodore W. Huling, Principal 109th Street Elementary School, and students: Nelida Perez, Gerardo Quinones, Johan de la Rosa and Diana Ruiz.

3. APPROVED Minutes of September 10, 2004 Council Meeting

4. RECEIVED and FILED Minutes of June 22, 2004 Service Sector Governance Council Annual Meet and Confer.

5. RECEIVED report on the Metro Transit Service Policy by Isaac Lim, Transportation Planning Manager.

Mr. Lim reported that the transit service policy was adopted in September 2003 and has been updated. The policy guides decision-making during the service change process and consists of design guidelines, performance measures, rail policies, and the planning process. Key themes of the existing policy include focusing on regional services, providing 30-minute policy headways, implementing a mystery rider program, and using a performance index to trigger corrective actions for poorly performing bus routes. Mr. Lim gave an overview of progress made since adoption of the policy last year as well as specific proposed policy changes. The Service Planning Department is currently engaging in on-going stakeholder review and will brief all Sector Governance Councils in October. The policy will be presented to the MTA Board for approval in January 2005.

Mr. Hendrickson asked for clarification on the mystery rider program. Mr. Lim stated the program would be contracted out to a marketing firm and the mystery riders would monitor on-board transit service.

6. UPDATE on Metro Orange Line (MTA & Community Issues) by Devon Brown, Senior Community Relations Officer.

Ms. Brown reported that the Metro Orange Line is a 14-mile busway running across the San Fernando Valley on existing MTA right-of-way; a transit corridor connecting the North Hollywood Metro Rail Station and Warner Center; 14 stations; 6 Park and Rides providing 3,700 new parking spaces; and miles of bike pedestrian paths. The Orange Line would provide easy access to the Valley's major activity centers and a faster link to downtown Los Angeles.

Ms. Hudson suggested that station seating be arranged so people could see the buses approaching. Ms. Brown will relay the suggestion to management.

Ms. Brown stated that 20,000 daily boardings are anticipated on the Metro Orange Line.

Mr. Price inquired regarding the nature of the Orange Line lawsuit. Ms. Brown explained that the lawsuit was filed by COST (Citizens Organized for Smart Transit), a local group opposed to construction of the Orange Line.

Mr. Price asked if there are any other dedicated bus lanes in the system. Ms. Brown stated there are not.

7. UPDATE on the Metro Connections Project by Nancy Michali, Director of Service Performance & Analysis.

Ms. Michali stated that Metro Connections was initiated by the MTA but represents a region-wide effort involving other transit operators. Since the last major system-wide change, population density and daily trips have increased. There are now more transit providers and rail service than before. One goal of the program involves enhancing service so that point-to-point connections can be made where needed. Staff is identifying and analyzing various community centers and travel corridors in order to develop a system plan that provides a framework for service planning. Eighty-one regional, subregional, community, and on-street centers are being evaluated based on future year forecast information. Service coverage and connectivity, future transit system improvements, future land use and development plans, and stakeholder/operator input will also be considered.

Ms. Michali reported that the proposed South Bay Regional Centers are LAX/Aviation Station and South Bay Galleria. The proposed Subregional Centers include Carson/Artesia Transit Center, Inglewood (Downtown) and San Pedro/Harbor. The Community Centers would be identified during the service planning process. With respect to corridors, future year (2010) travel

analysis will be conducted for all trips performed at three levels: county to county, subregion to subregion, and center to center. This will aid in identifying future travel patterns and needs, fit of existing services, missing/new services, and implementation phasing.

Mr. Sachar commented that there are complaints in South Bay regarding traffic density with people driving from home to work. He asked how are people being encouraged to use public transit. Ms. Michali responded that the Board directive is to service current riders and in that new riders would be attracted to public transit.

Mr. Hendrickson asked if there have been changes in travel patterns. Ms. Michali stated she would return to a future meeting with more in-depth information.

8. Chair's Remarks – None
9. Report of General Manager – None
10. Public Comment

Ken Rueben – provided an example of seamless service when he traveled from the San Gabriel Valley on Line 484, transferred to Line 439 and then to Culver City Transit, completing his trip in one hour.

Devon Deming – announced that a link for the Metro Trip Planner is now on the LAX website: www.LAWA.org. Ms. Deming thanked the Metro South Bay staff for participating in the LAX rideshare event on Wednesday.

Next Meeting:

Friday, November 12, 2004 – 9:30 a.m.

Carson Community Center

801 E. Carson St.

Carson, CA 90745

Adjourned at 10:50 a.m.



Prepared by: Sharon Sterling

