

Friday, January 14, 2005 – 9:30 A.M.

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# Minutes

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation  
Authority

## **SOUTH BAY SERVICE SECTOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

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

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Called to Order at 9:40 A.M.

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Council Members present:

Terisa Price, Chair  
John McTaggart  
Lou Mitchell  
Curren Price  
Howard Sachar

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Officers:

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



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro**

1. Safety 1<sup>st</sup> Contact

Ms. Dixie Dorsett cautioned everyone to reduce speed while driving and watch out for potholes on the streets and highways.

2. PRESENTATION of safety award certificates by Dana M. Coffey, General Manager, Metro South Bay.

Mirella Leyva and Maria Montejano, Bennett-Kew Elementary School; and Isaiah Copeland, Cimarron Ave Elementary School (award accepted by Yolanda Woods, After School Program Representative).

3. APPROVED AS CORRECTED Minutes of December 10, 2004 Council Meeting.

Item 5 – Mr. McTaggart asked if the Workers' Comp claim is budgeted for the life of the claim once it is entered in the system. Mr. Wong responded that if funding is not enough to cover the claim, the Sector may have to request more funds.

4. RECEIVED briefing on the Metro South Bay Revised FY05 Budget by Myrine White, Chief Administrative Analyst.

Ms. White provided a copy of the revised report to the Councilmembers and explained the variances, detailed on a line-by-line comparison to the budget.

Ms. Mitchell asked for an explanation of Hub Miles. Ms. White stated that they are a total of revenue and non-revenue miles.

Ms. Price asked if the 162,096 reduction in Revenue Service Hours was a result of the December 2004 service changes. Ms. White replied in the affirmative and stated it included the Consent Decree service. She further stated that four bus lines were transferred to the Gateway Service Sector (Lines 53, 55, 265 and 681).

Ms. Price inquired regarding the Sector's status with Workers' Compensation. Ms. White stated there is a \$193,000 positive variance.

Ms. Price asked what caused the \$389,702 decrease in fuel cost. Ms. White stated it was due to the reduction in the number of buses.

5. RECEIVED AND FILED report on Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 Service Changes by Scott Greene, Transportation Planning Manager.

Mr. Greene reported that the service changes are proposed to improve service quality, to use resources wisely, and to consider new services.

Mr. Greene summarized the proposed changes as follows:

**Line 107 (54<sup>th</sup> St -- Fairview Bl.):** this east/west oriented line operated between Inglewood and Huntington Park until its cancellation in June 2004. The

Governance Council previously approved cancellation of Line 107 based on low ridership and duplication with other services. Since the cancellation, Community DASH service in the 54<sup>th</sup> St. corridor gained substantial ridership.

**Line 115 (Manchester Av. -- Firestone Bl.):** propose to straightline the operation in Westchester and eliminate the route segment on three residential streets: Loyola Bl., 80<sup>th</sup> St., and Emerson Av.

**Line 202 (Willowbrook – Compton – Wilmington):** propose to cancel midday service and reduce peak period service frequency from 30 minutes to 60 minutes. The Sector will continue to discuss transfer of the service to Long Beach Transit.

**Line 205 (Willowbrook – Harbor City – San Pedro):** propose a route modification in San Pedro in conjunction with implementation of a new shuttle to address community issues in the vicinity of 13<sup>th</sup> St. and Patton Av. where residents have complained about the volume of buses and associated impacts.

**Line 207/357 (Western Av. – 120<sup>th</sup> St.):** propose to restructure service in Hollywood to reduce the number of buses operating on Garfield Place due to residents' complaints; consider elimination of the route segment on Western Av. south of Imperial Highway and on 120<sup>th</sup> St. to the Harbor Green Line Station at 117<sup>th</sup>/Figueroa. In addition, consider implementation of Western Av. Metro Rapid Line 757 for December 2005, and receive public comment on the cancellation of Line 357 limited stop service.

**Line 211/215 (Prairie Av./Inglewood Av.):** propose to cancel midday service and continue to operate AM/PM peaks.

**Line 225/226 (Palos Verdes Peninsula):** consider transfer of service to the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority for community-based operation.

**Line 305 (Crosstown Bus from Rosa Parks Station to Westwood):** propose to cancel weekend and holiday service, and reduce weekday service frequencies.

**Line 439 (L.A. – LAX – Redondo Beach):** propose to cancel the route segment south of the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Transit Center and continue to operate service north of LAX to Union Station and downtown Los Angeles.

**Line 442 (L.A. – Manchester Av. – Hawthorne Bl. Express):** with the implementation of Hawthorne Metro Rapid in December 2004 and the abundance of alternatives, propose to cancel all service and reallocate resources to areas with higher demand.

**Line 711 (Florence Av. Metro Rapid):** extend some or all trips west of Inglewood to the LAX Transit Center via Century Bl.

**Line 757 (Western Av. Rapid Bus):** expect to begin service in December 2005; receive public comment in advance to improve service planning.

Mr. Greene stated that upon approval, these service changes would become effective on June 26, 2005 or later.

Mr. C. Price stated he would not be available for the Public Hearing.

Mr. McTaggart asked if the Line 225/226 change would result in budget savings for the South Bay Service Sector. Mr. Greene replied that Line 225/226 is a contract service and a minor change would be reflected in the Gateway Cities Service Sector budget.

Mr. McTaggart expressed concern regarding the South Bay Service Sector making the decision for a line that is in another Sector's budget. Ms. Price commented that all contract lines are included in the Gateway Cities Service Sector budget for greater efficiency and monitoring.

Ms. Price inquired regarding recommendation item C – designation of Public Hearing Officer. Mr. Greene indicated that Ms. Price was Chair of the last public hearing. Ms. Price stated that they should proceed as before.

**APPROVED C. PRICE MOTION:**

- A. Scheduling a public hearing for February 22, 2005 to receive public comment on Fiscal Year 2006 service changes;
- B. Authorizing the Publication of the Notice of Intent; and
- C. Designating the General Manager or her appointee as the Public Hearing Officer to receive public testimony on the proposed service changes.

6. Chair's Remarks

Ms. Price reported that Councilmember Margaret Hudson is recovering from her car accident and asked that everyone continue to send thoughts and prayers. Ms. Price brought flowers to the meeting anticipating Ms. Hudson would attend.

Ms. Price wished the Council, MTA staff and audience a Happy New Year and expressed appreciation for their input and insight. She announced that Beach Cities Transit Service began on January 2, 2005 and the information is available on the Internet. She requested a regular update regarding the bus service in San Pedro.

7. Report of General Manager

Ms. Coffey stated that the division managers and her direct reports would provide PowerPoint presentations at the February Council meeting on Customer Service, Workers' Compensation, Accidents, Mean Miles, and other strategies.

Ms. Coffey stated staff would continue to review service, look at low performing bus lines, and coordinate with other municipal operators to improve service quality.

Ms. Coffey commended her staff and stated that despite the power outages in Los Angeles due to the recent storm, 99% of her employees reported to work.

Ms. Coffey stated that division open houses would be scheduled for April and May; the exact dates would be announced at the next meeting.

## 8. Public Comment

Dorothea Jaster reported bus operator infractions: playing the radio, drinking coffee, talking on a cell phone (using hands-free device and making gestures with both hands), and not announcing stops. She further stated that Line 444 runs ahead of schedule in the evening and the Metro Trip Planner is a "joke".

Mr. McTaggart commented that the Metro Trip Planner is being upgraded.

Ms. Price asked Ms. Jaster to share specific information with staff.

Dennis Alabaso commented regarding the Line 750 extension and the Beach Cities Transit.

Ms. Price provided the website for Beach Cities Transit information, [www.redondo.org](http://www.redondo.org).

Devon Deming, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), announced that the Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) approved changes to the Mass Transit Reimbursement Program which reimburses LAWA employees for some or all of their costs for commuting to work via bus and train. This includes an increase in the monthly maximum from \$50 to \$100 and expansion of the program to include employees at Van Nuys Airport (VNY) and Palmdale Regional Airport. LAX and Ontario International Airport employees are already eligible for the program. She noted that there is Metro service to both LAX and VNY. In addition, LAWA will be holding a Transit Education and Safety Training (TEST) week, which will include giving registered employees free weekly Metro passes, provided by Metro Commute Services (MCS), and arranging Transit Mentors to help new riders in their commute. MCS, which is Metro's Employer Assistance branch, will be arranging a live radio broadcast from Aviation Station. LAWA's TEST week is currently scheduled February 7-11, with a live broadcast on Rideshare Thursday, February 10. Ms. Deming invited Metro South Bay to use this event as an opportunity to promote Metro as well, and asked that the new bus stop signs be posted on World Way West at Administration Road prior to TEST week.

Ms. Price stated the request would be provided to Stops and Zones.

J. K. Drummond asked that the Sector invite the new Carson Circuit, L.A. Hotel Improvement District, Amtrak Catalina Bus Service management and the mayoral

candidates to the meeting. He stated the Sector should improve coordination with other transit agencies.

Ken Ruben stated the layover problem on the Westside affects all the sectors.

Lois Thompson expressed concern regarding the lack of service in the city of El Segundo on the weekend.

George Bennett stated that Line 446/447 is consistently late causing him to arrive late for work. He further stated the operators frequently pass up the stop at 7<sup>th</sup> & Grand southbound. He inquired regarding implementation of an employee transit pass program in Carson.

Ms. Price indicated that an agency with over 50 employees is mandated to have a rideshare program and suggested that Mr. Bennett contact his employer.

June Saleman stated that disabled people are not safe on Line 205 at night in Harbor City. There are no schedules on the bus; she contacted Customer Service and received the information two weeks later.

Councilmember Comments:

Mr. Price thanked the participants for attending the meeting.

Mr. Sachar inquired regarding the new Councilmember. Ms. Price replied that Mr. John Addleman was on vacation and would attend the February meeting.

Ms. Price expressed concern regarding the bus operator issues. She requested a report next month on Metro Rapid free running time and layover issues.

Mr. McTaggart announced that Metro passes are now sold online.

**Next Meeting:**

**Friday, February 11, 2005 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Community Center**

**801 E. Carson St.**

**Carson, CA 90745**

Adjourned at 10:58 p.m.



Prepared by: Sharon Sterling