

Thursday, May 5, 2005

3:00-5:00 PM

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# MINUTES

Westside/Central Service Sector  
Governance Council

Regular Meeting

La Cienega Tennis Center  
325 S. La Cienega Blvd.  
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

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Called to order at 3:04 p.m.

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Council Members present:

Carol Gross, Chair  
Peter Capone-Newton, Vice Chair  
Presley Burroughs  
Carlos Collard  
Greg Fischer  
Joyce Perkins  
Brad Robinson  
Anny Semonco

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Officers:

David J. Armijo, General Manager  
Michele Jackson, Council Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro**

1. APPROVED April 7, 2005 Minutes **as corrected**.

Page 3, first sentence of paragraph 4 corrected to read "Council Member Capone-Newton asked why MTA is **not** reverting back to the regular 217 Line."

2. RECEIVED updated report on the current Fiscal Year 05 performance and proposed FY06 budget from Michael Davis, Administrative and Finance Manager

Michael Davis reported that the Sector is exceeding the goals for mean miles between chargeable mechanical failures and is showing improvement in bus cleanliness and the number of complaints per 100,000 boardings.

As of March the Sector was \$1.1 million over budget in salaries and wages due to additional overtime caused by the operator shortage. Fringe benefits are \$900,000 under budget due to the shortage, but overtime cost is much more than the savings. Fuel is also over budget by \$1.4 million.

Council Member Robinson requested additional data in the future. He would like staff to track the number of accidents and sick days that might be attributed to the increased overtime, and hopefully find the break-even point between overtime and additional employees. Mr. Robinson also asked if anyone has analyzed what happens when wages go up and overtime goes down. He would also like to see the total amount of workers' compensation paid to the drivers tracked alongside overtime on a chart.

Mr. Armijo said the actual number of workers' compensation claims is down by 14%; but the cost is increasing because the cost on a per-claim basis is going up.

Council Member Burroughs asked about developing a comfortable operator assignment ratio range. He expressed the opinion that working conditions might also hinder the recruitment process, i.e. long runs in high congestion, with short or no break at the end of the run.

Dave Armijo noted that the current feeling is that recruitment is improving

Mr. Davis also highlighted the preliminary FY06 budget assumptions

- Revenue Service Hours: 1,722,040
- Operator Assignment Ratio: 1.18
- Consolidated "On street Supervision" at the Sector Office
- In Service On Time Performance: 70%
- Complaints per 100,000 boardings: 3.75
- Mean miles between chargeable failures: 7,500
- Vehicles accidents per 100,000 hub miles: 3.50
- New workers' compensation indemnity claims per 100,000 hours of exposure: 20

Chair Gross asked Dave Armijo to explain what is being done about on-time performance. Mr. Armijo said he would like to invite Derick Mahome, who is in charge of the Transit Operations Supervisors, to make a report at a future Governance Council meeting.

Chair Gross suggested holding some Sector meetings at the Divisions. Council Member Robinson said he would like to have a light agenda on that day and actually tour the facility.

3. DISCUSSED May 23 Meet and Confer meeting with Roger Snoble, CEO and NOTED Sector Policy Amendment

Dave Armijo noted that this year's Meet and Confer will be held in the MTA Board Room.

Council Member Capone Newton commented on a news story on National Public Radio about Rapid Bus in LA and a group from New York scheduled to visit MTA. He expressed interest in having a group of Governance Council members meet with them. He offered the opinion that the Meet and Confer might be a good place to bring that up as well as a discussion on Rapid Bus. Chair Gross noted that in any such meeting Council Members would be obligated to represent the opinion of the body.

Council Member Collard asked what was discussed at last year's Meet and Confer. Various Council Members recalled discussion of business cards for Governance Council members, budget and financial issues, roles and responsibilities of Council members, and communication and workers' compensation issues.

Dave Armijo remembered some mention of having quarterly meetings of the Chairs or representatives from each sector. Chair Gross feels there can be gains because of the differences between Councils. Some are very focused on public outreach; others are very hands on with maintenance and talking to injured employees.

Mr. Armijo said there needs to be an initiative for such a meeting, perhaps Metro Connections or something going on in another sector. Chair Gross feels an issue might be what lines are allocated to what sector.

Council Member Burroughs questioned whether the May 23 meeting might be an opportunity to float the idea of a real-time information system using existing GPS technology and having that disseminated through cell phones on an on-demand basis.

Chair Gross responded that would probably be an appropriate discussion, but should be presented more broadly as there are a variety of ways in which information can be conveyed.

4. Public Comment

Tom Stanley, Friends of Expo and Friends of the Red Line - Main interest is advocating extension of the Red Line to the West Side.

Joseph Dunn – Problem with connection between 217 & 180 going westbound. There is a 30-minute layover at Hollywood and Vine area. Eastbound there is a 10-minute misconnect. Line 217 Olympic, San Vicente, Fairfax, should combine the two inefficient stops into one. Line 175 Hyperion area in Silverlake becoming very popular. Start in West Hollywood and bring it close to Fountain Avenue line and let it go all the way to Hyperion, which turns into Glendale Ave., ending perhaps at the Galleria. Need DASH service to Travel Town.

Ken Ruben, Southern California Transit Advocates – Line 761 reroute now back to its old route. Fullerton Railroad Days this weekend conflicts with annual car show.

5. Chair's Remarks

Chair Gross announced Culver City Car Show and pancake breakfast this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

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Michele Jackson, Council Secretary