

Thursday, September 8, 2005 – 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

GATEWAY CITIES SERVICE SECTOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The Gas Company
9240 Firestone Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241

Call to Order at 2:01 p.m.

Council Members:

Larry R. Nelson (Chair)
Wally Shidler (Vice Chair)
Samuel Peña
Jo Ann Eros-Delgado
Jacqueline Rynerson
Cynde Soto

Officers:

Alex Clifford, General Manager
Michele Chau, Council Secretary

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Self Introductions
4. APPROVED **Minutes** as corrected of July 14, 2005 Council Meeting
5. RECEIVED **Report** of General Manager, Alex Clifford Governance Council Update
The Gateway Cities COG Executive Board has accepted applications for the three Gateway Cities Governance Council member vacancies (one to replace Bonnie Lowenthal and the other two to fill the new seats added when the COG voted to expand to 9 members). Last night, the COG selected the two elected officials to fill our council seats –Cheri **Kelley** from the City of Norwalk, **and** Owen Newcomer from the City of Whittier. The COG may have a vote next month to select the non-elected official member of our council.

Upcoming Events:

The annual Governance Council briefing to the MTA Board, originally scheduled for June 23, will be presented at the September MTA Board meeting. Council Member Shidler will talk about this later in the meeting.

6. APPROVED staff recommendation of **Proposed December '05 Service Changes** by Mike Sieckert, Metro Gateway Cities Sector General Manager

Mike Sieckert recommended that the following lines be withdrawn: lines 127, 460, 605 and 711. He also recommended three lines be deferred for further consideration, lines 60, 65 and 760. Mike proposed that the following lines be modified: 102, 254, 258 and 577 and finally he recommended the following lines be approved as proposed: Lines 26, 110, 125, 265, 266, 275, 362, 612, 622 and 681.

Public Comments:

- a. Rafi Katzir said he was happy to hear that line 460 was staying as is. He also thinks that line 751 should be extended to the Green Line Station on Saturdays.
- b. Norman Hobson stated that line 362 and the entire 300 series operate as limited service lines. By changing it to line 62 it doesn't have any local requirements. He also requested that line 127 be left as is.
- c. Lucille Wendler stated that she rides line 275. Opposes any changes to that line and asked council to consider not shortening the line.
- d. Manual Carrillo, with the Bus Riders Union, urged the Council to reject staff's recommendations. He also requested that MTA eliminate line 264.

- e. Lisa Adler with the Bus Riders Union, stated that if line 681 is eliminated it will have an adverse impact to the riders.
- f. George Poochigian of Whittier commended Mike Sieckert for his presentation and working with condominium residents. He also acknowledged that line 275 is disruptive. It runs on a residential street and it stops after 10:00 p.m. in front of a 36-unit condominium. He asked that the Council consider eliminating this line or modifying it so that it doesn't run so late at night on residential streets.

7. General **Manager** UPDATE on **Communication issues between the Sector(s) and Metro's Marketing Department**

General Manager Clifford has requested a meeting with other Sector General Managers and Executive Officers. They expressed similar issues in having difficulty in communicating with the Board. Also, staff will keep Council posted on when they will include Line 460 in marketing materials and promotional pamphlets.

8. Council Member's Remarks

- o Discussion on upcoming joint governance council briefing to the MTA Board
 - a. Council Member Peña stated there were two public hearings held and that staff did a great job.
 - b. Council Member Shidler reported that he rode on Line 254 and that no one is riding the whole line. Also, line 681 there are no riders from 55th street and there will be no adverse affect if we discontinue this line.
 - c. Council Member Soto commended staff on their diligence. She is very happy with all the work done so far.
 - d. Council Member Eros-Delgado said she is happy that the group is meeting and willing to compromise.

Mr. Clifford stated that the process does work. Not all recommendations were approved. A total of 21 recommended changes are not going through.

9. Chairperson's Remarks

Chair Nelson introduced the new Gateway Cities Council Members, Norwalk City Councilwoman Cheri **Kelley** and Whittier City Councilman Owen Newcomer.

Vice Chair Shidler also announced that the MTA's meeting with the Board is fast approaching, two weeks from today, and he hopes everyone can make it.

The next Bus Ride Along is scheduled for this Friday, **9/10**.

Dave Hershenson mentioned Metro's 'Night of Stars' banquet will be held at the Bonaventure Hotel next Friday evening beginning at 6 pm, honoring the "Best of the Best" division employees.

10. Consideration of Items not posted on the Agenda - None

11. Public Comment on Items not posted on the Agenda

Pam Medina with Department of Transportation asked that the Council train traffic officers regarding bus line changes. Also, there are over 21,000 Home Care Workers within the Gateway area and most of them use public transportation. Staff should get in touch with union members and educate them on using public transportation.

ADJOURNED AT 3:00 P.M.

Jenny Dennis, Council Secretary