

Thursday, December 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 2:02

Council Members:

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

Officers:

Alex Clifford, General Manager
Jenny Dennis, Council Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Gateway Cities Service Sector
Service Area
 **Metro**



Gateway Cities Governance Council

1) The Governance Council is responsible for bus service operated by the Gateway Cities Service Sector. Service Operated by division 1 and 2 includes the following Lines:

10-48 (Melrose - Temple - San Pedro St), 16-316 (West Third St), 18 (W. Sixth St - Whittier Blvd), 26-51-52-351-352 (Seventh St - Virgil Ave - Avalon Blvd), 45-46 (Broadway - Mercury Ave), 53 (Central Ave), 55 (L.A. Compton Ave), 60-360 (Long Beach Blvd - Santa Fe Ave), 65 (Washington Blvd - Indiana St - Gage Ave), 66-366 (East Olympic Blvd - W. 8th St), 102 (E. Jefferson Blvd - Coliseum St), 105 (Vernon Ave - La Cienega Blvd), 200 (Alvarado St - Echo Park Ave), 265-275 (Paramount - Whittier - Cerritos), 362 (L.A. – Santa Fe Springs - Norwalk - Hawaiian Gardens), 460 (L.A. Norwalk - Disney Exp), 611 (Huntington Park Shuttle), 612 (South Gate Shuttle), 681 (Huntington Park - Watts Shuttle), 720 (Wilshire - Whittier Metro Rapid), 745 (So. Broadway Metro Rapid)

2) Contract Service Lines in the Gateway Cities includes Lines:

125 (Rosecrans Ave), 128 (Alondra Blvd), 130 (Artesia Blvd), 205 (Willowbrook - Harbor City – San Pedro), 232 (Long Beach - LAX via Sepulveda Blvd), 254 (Willowbrook - Huntington Park - Lorena St - City Terrace), 266 (Rosemead Blvd - Lakewood Blvd), 270 (Monrovia - El Monte – Norwalk)

3) Service operated in the Gateway Cities region by other sectors [SGV = San Gabriel Valley Sector, SB = South Bay Sector, WC = Westside / Central Sector] includes Lines:

251 (Soto St - Daly St - California Ave – SGV), 255 (Griffin Ave-Co Hospital - Rowan Ave – SGV) 259 Eastern Ave - Arizona Ave - Emery Park – SGV), 260 Artesia St - Pasadena - Altadena - Via Atlantic – SGV), 108 (Slauson Ave - Eastern Ave - SB), 110 (Gage Ave - Centinela Ave SB), 111 (LAX- Florence-Leffingwell Rd – SB), 115 (Manchester Ave - Firestone Blvd - SB), 117 (Century Blvd - Tweedy Blvd -Rancho Los Amigos – SB), 120 (Imperial Hwy - Aviation Blvd SB), 124 (El Segundo Blvd - Santa Fe Ave - SB), 127 (Compton Blvd - Bellflower Blvd - SB), 202 (Willowbrook - Compton - Wilmington – SB), 711 (Florence Ave Rapid Bus – SB), 30 (W Pico Blvd-E First St- Floral Dr – WC), 720 (Wilshire – Whittier Metro Rapid – WC).

4) The Governance Council is responsible for: studying and planning service to improve efficiency with the Metro Gateway Cities Sector; making recommendations to the MTA board regarding service issues; working with transit planners and local authorities and transit operators to ensure coordination of service, and; holding public hearings to gain input on proposed changes. The Governance Council is not responsible for fare and pass structures, new project construction, or Metro Rail.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call – All Council Members Present.
3. Self Introductions

Public Comment

Tut Hayes, stated that the bus schedules for example, Line 439, MTA removed the names of the streets that the buses drive along from the front of the timetable. It currently reads North, South, East and West. On December 18th, the new schedules are due to come out and they do not have the actual bus numbers nor does the legend indicate which street is the heavy/thick line on the front of the schedule. The schedules need to have the names of the street where the bus travels. Also, the bus drivers are not calling out the stops on the Orange Line.

Council Member Shidler responded that the schedules for Gateway Service Sector have been updated with street names.

General Manager Clifford thanked Mr. Hayes for his concerns, and stated that drivers' not calling out the stops is an ongoing problem but the majority of the drivers are doing it and each sector is working towards having all drivers call out every stop. He stated that Metro is installing automatic stop annunciation systems on all buses in the Metro system.

4. **APPROVED Minutes** of November 10, 2005 Council Meeting on motion by Council Member Eros-Delgado seconded by Council Member Rynerson.
5. **RECEIVED Report** from General Manager Alex Clifford. Mr. Clifford stated that this sector is doing well on labor overall, but operator labor is currently over budget. In the allocated accounts the sector started off the year with two liability claims, which caused the PLPD to be over budget. This should smooth out somewhat by the end of the year if we do not get any more claims. Mr. Clifford reported on each Council Member's term dates and also reviewed the Governance Council's six month calendar. As requested he distributed the Proposition C Discretionary Funds handout and the amended Governance Council Bylaws. Mr. Clifford reminded the Council that there is a scheduled ride-a-long tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. Council Member Shidler requested that the dates of the Board Meetings and the Committee Meetings be added to the six-month calendar.
6. **RECEIVED Presentation** on New Line 577x Start-up - Mike Sieckert/Dave Hershenson. Mr. Sieckert reported that on the 19th of December the new X line will begin operating and shared examples of the marketing plan with the Council for the 29-mile route that begins in El Monte and ends in Long Beach with one stop in Norwalk. Phase One

includes a rider brochure for the line that will be distributed throughout the southeast areas. Mr. Sieckert also showed Line 577X car cards that will be placed inside of the buses, the king ad which will be placed on the side of the buses, and the small posters that will be given to Employee Transportation Coordinators (ETC) to make available to their employees. Metro will also provide a payroll stuffer advertising the line. Along with all the posters and handouts, Metro is also sending out an Employer Email Blast advertising the start up date. In addition, information about the line is also available on the MTA website, and when a customer calls MTA and is put on hold they will hear recorded information about Line 577X. Phase two will start in January 2006, which includes newspaper ads, a direct mail piece going directly into households, and a second version of the Rider-Take-One. In January 2006 the regular fare of \$1.25 and two \$.50 zone fares will be in effect. Total cost from end to end is \$2.25. Discounts will apply for seniors and the disabled. Phase two will also feature information about Line 577x in the Metro Quarterly Publication, Metro News, Metro Website and Message on Hold.

Council Member Shidler questioned the additional zone fees; noting that rail lines have no extra fees. He also asked if this was a contracted line.

Mr. Sieckert replied that the Marketing Department is in control of the fare fees and any bus that travels on the freeway is operating on a zone fare. This is a contracted line and all MTA Fare Media will be accepted.

General Manager Clifford invited everyone to the Line 577x event on Friday, December 16, 2005 at 10 AM at the VA Hospital in Long Beach.

Dave Hershenson explained that December 16th is the day of the grand opening event, but the first day of operation will be on December 19th. Bonnie Lowenthal, Larry Nelson and Don Knabe are all scheduled to be at the event. City Council representatives and other stakeholders from the cities Norwalk and Long Beach were also invited.

Council Member Kelley asked if we have support from other Sectors to get rid of Zone Fares.

Mr. Hershenson and Mr. Sieckert explained that sectors do not have the authority to set fares, and that he and Mr. Sieckert had hoped that there would be no zone charges on this line, at least for an extended introductory period.

Council Member Shidler requested that this sector send a letter to the MTA Board suggesting that the price for Line 577x be the same as rail and the Orange Line. He also asked staff if they knew how much revenue MTA is generating with the extra fare.

Chair Nelson asked staff to investigate how other sectors feel about this issue so it's consistent.

7. **APPROVED Recommendation** for Line 26 Service Adjustment – General Manager Clifford reported that the Council took an action to discontinue service on Line 26 between Franklin to Hillhurst due to service duplication with DASH. Staff is reaching out to LADOT to see if they might be interested in starting their service earlier. In the meantime,

Mr. Clifford asked Council to approve a motion to add early morning service to fill the void of service in this corridor between 5:30 AM and 6:30 AM. Mr. Clifford stated that his staff will carefully monitor ridership on these five trips and recommend the discontinuance of the shuttle at a future date should ridership not meet minimum standards. After a brief discussion Council Member Shidler moved to continue to operate the line temporarily. Council Member Soto seconded and requested staff to bring a report back on ridership to the Council in February.

8. **APPROVED Recommendation** to add Line 705 Rapid Bus Stop at La Cienega & 18th St. – Mike Sieckert. Mr. Sieckert stated that Line 705 is an Express Service and it has 20 stops and runs 14 miles long. Third Street stop is growing. When the Line was started, the 18th Street stop was cancelled. Since then, the sector has received many complaints. The sector would like to go back to the MTA Board to request reinstating the stop at 18th street. San Gabriel Valley and Westside Councils have put together a joint report to go to the MTA Board in January or February for the Board to consider approval of new stops on rapid lines within their sectors.

Council Member Shidler moved to reestablish the stop at 18th Street, continue the stop on 3rd Street and to add a stop to Malabar Street (the layover of the Line). Council Member Kelley seconded.

9. Chairperson's Remarks – Mr. Nelson stated that he enjoyed the public comments today.
10. Council Member's Remarks
General Manager Clifford noted the Appointment of Wally Shidler to Metro Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC)

Council Member Shidler reported that the Citizens' Advisory Council met and discussed Disaster Evacuation plan for the City of Los Angeles and also how the CNG Buses will get refueled in case of an emergency.

11. Consideration of Items not posted on the Agenda - None
12. Public Comment on Items not posted on the Agenda

James Gusky requested that schedules be made available before the route begins. He asked if Line 362 will be back. Also, he questioned if all rapid lines have signal priority.

General Manager Clifford replied that Line 362 is now a local line. Line 760 is a rapid line, which will start in June or December 2006 and will go through many cities with signal priority.

Dan Nguyen, Service Development Manager added that the timetables are arriving and they should be in the buses any day now.

ADJOURNMENT - 3:34 p.m.

Jenny Dennis, Council Secretary

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SERVICE SECTOR COUNCIL RULES

PUBLIC INPUT

The Service Sector Council meetings are open to the public. A member of the public may address the Council on agenda items, before or during the Council's consideration of the item for up to 5 minutes per item, or at the discretion of the Chair. A request to address the Council should be submitted in person at the meeting to the Council Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.

The public may also address the Council on non-agenda items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the MTA Service Sector during the public comment period, which will be held at the end of each meeting. Each person will be allowed to speak for one minute and may speak no more than once during the Public Comment period. Public Comment will last a maximum of 30 minutes, or as otherwise indicated by the Chair. Speakers will be called according to the order in which the speaker request forms are received until the Public Comment period has expired. Elected officials, not their staff or deputies, may be called out of order and prior to the Council's consideration of the relevant item.

At the discretion of the Chair, the Council may limit public input on any item, based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the Council.

In the interest of hearing from as many members of the public as possible, if at the time your name is called, your issue has been addressed or your opinion expressed by a previous speaker, please simply state that fact and your name for the record.

In accordance with State Law (Brown Act), all matters to be acted on by the Council must be posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. In case of emergency, or when a subject matter arises subsequent to the posting of the agenda, upon making certain findings, the Council may act on an item that is not on the posted agenda.

CONDUCT IN THE MEETING ROOM - The following rules pertain to conduct at Service Sector Council meetings:

REMOVAL FROM THE MEETING ROOM The Chair shall order removed from the Meeting Room any person who commits the following acts with respect to any meeting of the Council:

- a. Disorderly behavior tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting.
- b. A breach of the peace, boisterous conduct or violent disturbance, tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting.
- c. Disobedience of any lawful order of the Chair, which shall include an order to be seated or to refrain from addressing the Council; and
- d. Any other unlawful interference with the due and orderly course of said meeting.

INFORMATION RELATING TO AGENDAS AND ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Agendas for the Regular Council meetings are available prior to the meeting at the Sector Office, in the MTA Records Management Department and on the Internet.

Foreign language translation is available if requested 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Please telephone (213) 922-4600 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The State Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 84308) requires that a party to a proceeding before an agency involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use, including all

contracts (other than competitively bid, labor, or personal employment contracts), shall disclose on the record of the proceeding any contributions in an amount of more than \$250 made within the preceding 12 months by the party, or his or her agent, to any officer of the agency, additionally PUC Code Sec. 130051.20 requires that no member accept a contribution of over ten dollars (\$10) in value or amount from a construction company, engineering firm, consultant, legal firm, or any company, vendor, or business entity that has contracted with the authority in the preceding four years. Persons required to make this disclosure shall do so by filling out a "Disclosure of Contribution" form which is available at the Board Secretary's Office. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the assessment of civil or criminal penalties.

ADA REQUIREMENTS

A cordless microphone is available for those persons with mobility impairments who cannot access the public speaking area. American Sign language interpreter services and agendas in Braille are available by giving notice at least three business days in advance of the meeting. Please telephone (213) 922-4600 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our TDD line is (800) 252-9040.

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