

Friday, March 10, 2006 – 9:30 a.m.

Minutes

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

SOUTH BAY SERVICE SECTOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Carson Community Center
801 E. Carson Street, Room 209
Carson, CA 90745

Called to Order at 9:33 a.m.

Council Members present:

Terisa Price, Chair
John McTaggart, Vice Chair
John Addleman
Margaret Hudson
Curren Price
Devon Deming

Officers:

Dana M. Coffey, General Manager
Jenny Dennis, Council Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

1. **Safety 1st Contact** by Metro South Bay Volunteer. Dorothea Jaster, a transit passenger, recommended that all passengers have their money or bus passes readily available so there will be no need to expose their wallet in front of strangers.
2. **APPROVED** the Minutes of the February 10, 2006 Council Meeting.
3. **RECEIVED** report on the Bus Pole Program by Matt Raymond, Chief Communications Officer, Executive Office. Matt Raymond addressed issues on signage in the South Bay. South Bay Council requested a lot of information, large type on a small sign. The agency has to be selective on where these signs are located. The Communications Department is in the process of looking at several design options, for example bus poles. A big challenge is the facilities maintenance. There are nine people who manage all the signs for the agency. When service is improved it is difficult for facilities maintenance to keep up. We are in the process of reevaluating our budget to improve the signage program. The agency is moving forward with a new sign program starting with the South Bay.

Council Chair T. Price requested that South Bay Service Sector Council would like to be actively and fundamentally involved in the design process. It is the desire of the South Bay Service Sector Council that anyone who walks up to a Metro Bus Stop has enough information at the bus stop to be able to get on that bus and get where they need to go rather than having to get a schedule in advance or have to go to the Metro Trip Planner. This Council would like to facilitate the use of transit by making it as easy as possible for the passengers.

Council Member Hudson requested that all schedules be made available to passengers from every line that passes through the Artesia Transit Center (ATC), whether they are Metro, Gardena or Torrance bus lines. It would be helpful for those schedules to be posted behind the acrylic sign area.

Council Member Deming suggested that last bus information should be included, and that services operating “rush hour only” don’t provide enough specific information.

4. **PRESENTATION** of the LAX FlyAway Bus by Devon Deming, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA). Ms. Deming presented a DVD production on the LAX FlyAway Bus Service from Union Station. FlyAway Bus Service will begin on March 15. The service will be free from March 15 to the 31. Van Nuys has an existing FlyAway service that has been in operation for over 30 years. It operates 24 hours a day at 15 minute intervals during peak hours. The Union Station FlyAway service anticipates 75,000 passengers for the first year. The bus will depart from the Patsaouras Transit Plaza at Bus Bay 9. Parking is provided at a rate of \$6.00 per day and with a length of stay for up to 30 days. The buses leave every hour and on the half hour and stop at every terminal. It takes 10 minutes for the bus to complete the entire terminal loop. The outbound bus leaving LAX to Union Station leaves 10 minutes later. There is additional information on the website www.lawa.org and the toll free number is (866) 435-9529/ (866) I-FLY-LAX. LAWA is currently working with Metrolink to add FlyAway ticket sales to their machines and at their stations. We are also marketing to Riverside and Orange Counties because John Wayne and Ontario Airports do not have all the international flights that LAX carries.
5. Chair’s Remarks – Metro Safety Coloring Contest Winner; DeMario Nawa.

Safety Transit Contest Winners from Towne Avenue Elementary School; Vanessa, Amanda, Alisa, and Luis.
6. General Manager’s Comments – General Manager Coffey announced the next shake-ups are scheduled for June and December. The agency is reviewing the Harbor Transit way and the Artesia Transit Center to make service more reliable. The agency is looking at the safety of the system and is in constant communication with other municipal operators. In closing, Arthur Winston is leaving and will appear on the Jay Leno Show. March 22 is his last day.

7. Public Comments

Council Member McTaggart had a positive comment about Line 444. Bus #4750 was on time today and the operator # 10601 was very pleasant. The bus was clean and the passengers really enjoyed riding with operator #10601.

Council Member Addleman announced that the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority is preparing to take over Lines 225/226.

Council Member Deming asked about schedule changes on Lines 625/626.

Council Member Hudson indicated she has experienced good service on the Harbor Transitway. She also testified recently at a Carson City Council meeting against a motion to oppose an extension of the Metro Red Line.

Eric Calhoun stated that he was in support of Line 439 and does not want to see it cancelled. Line 607 hours of service must be extended until 9 pm. It should be patterned after Line 107. Line 115 reads that it travels to Loyola Marymount University and it doesn't – he recommended a replacement service should operate 7 days a week. In addition, the announcements on the buses are inaccurate. Mr. Calhoun suggested that the drivers call out the stops when the automated systems are not working properly.

Norm Hobson had suggestions for the Marketing Department. Lines 40, 42, and 442 should be on the same schedule. Also, Lines 442, 115, and 315 should be on the same schedule because they travel similar routes. Mr. Hobson stated that he was waiting for a response from the two written questions he submitted at the January Council meeting regarding Lines 211 and 209. Also he wants an explanation of passenger boarding standards for express lines.

Dorothea Jaster stated that there is a signage problem at the Artesia Transit Center (ATC). Private cars are confused on where to enter to drop off passengers. There needs to be signage on how one gets to the parking lot from Vermont. In addition, the sign for the Park and Ride is obscured

because of the chain link fence. There was a light out at the ATC platform and there currently is no system set up to notify anyone about the problem.

Evaristo Ramos requested that Metro create a line from the City of Carson to the Long Beach Medical Center, similar to Line 577X.

Council Chair T. Price stated that Metro Line 439 will be taken over by Beach Cities Transit on July 1. There will not be any service interruption, only the operator will change.

ADJOURNMENT – 11:34 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Dennis", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

For: _____

Jenny Dennis, Council Secretary