

MINUTES

San Fernando Valley Service Sector
Governance Council

Regular Meeting

Marvin Braude Constituent Svc Center
6262 Van Nuys Blvd.
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Called to Order at 6:45 p.m.

Service Sector Representatives
present:

Kymerleigh Richards, Chair
Brad Rosenheim, Vice-Chair
Richard Arvizu
Coby King
Joan H. Leonard
Jesus R. Ochoa
Mel Wilson

Officers:

Richard Hunt, General Manager
Christina Lumba-Gamboa, Council
Secretary

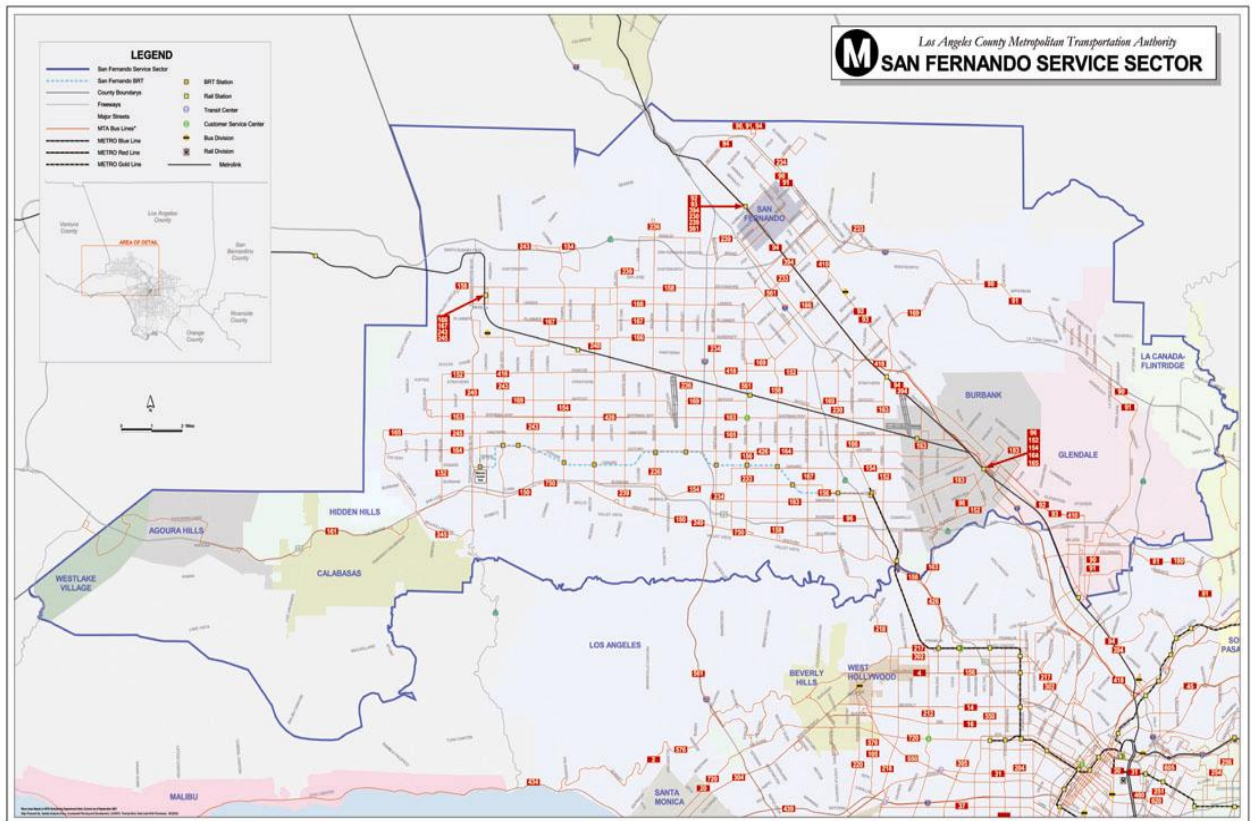


Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

METRO SAN FERNANDO VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

Area of responsibility:



- 1) The Governance Council is exclusively responsible for planning routes and schedules for Tier 1, 2, and 3 bus lines within the San Fernando Service Sector (except Metro Rapid lines and Metro Liner). Tier 1, 2, and 3 bus lines in the San Fernando Valley are:

**Lines: 90/91, 92, 94/394, 96C, 150/240, 152, 154, 156, 158, 161, 163,
164/165, 166, 167C, 168, 169, 183/234, 230/239, 233, 236/237, 242/243,
244/245, 353/363, 634C and 645. (C = Contract Service)**

Metro Rapid Lines **734, 750 & 761** and Metro Liner **901** are **NOT** under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Governance Council but jurisdiction may be exercised with the concurrence of other sector or Corporate.

- 2) The Governance Council is responsible for studying and planning service to improve efficiency within Metro San Fernando Valley, 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.
- 3) The Governance Council is **NOT** responsible for fare and pass structures, new project construction, or Metro Rail
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1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. APPROVED **Minutes** of Regular Governance Council Meeting held October 4, 2006.
3. RECEIVED Public Comment
 - Ms. Constance Craig complained that operators who pass up riders cost riders money. She stated riders pay \$3.00 for a day pass and the operators do not stop at scheduled bus stops.
 - Vince Garafalo complained that the driver of the bus he usually takes continues to give him “grief” regarding his personal belongings and his religious convictions and suggested that the driver be reprimanded with regard to his conduct. He suggested Line 94 be 24/7.
 - Arnold Franke suggested a visual indicator such as a push button with “blinking lights” at bus stops for drivers to see that passengers are waiting for the bus. He asked that Line 167 be operated by Metro instead of Transportation Concepts, as the contract operators are unprofessional and lack experience. He also stated that he takes Line 167 to go to the V. A. Hospital and it is always late. He suggested extension of Line 150 to Chatsworth replacing Line 245.
 - Ray Lopez suggested that the North-South Orange Line be named Metro Indigo Line and Eastside Gold Line the Metro Yellow Line.
 - Peter Luedtke suggested a bus stop on Van Nuys Blvd and Plummer St. for Rapid Lines 734 and 761 so veterans can have the option of continuing on to the Sepulveda Veterans Hospital using Line 167. He stated that there is no Rapid 761 bus stop at Van Nuys Blvd. and Plummer Street. He said that veterans and students use this line. Mr. Luedtke said the reason why the

parking lot at the Orange Line Sepulveda station is empty is because mostly students and low income riders who don't own cars are using the station coming off of Line 234 and Rapid 734 buses.

- Lawrence Knudsen complained that the “senior disabled” seating at the Orange Line Metro Liner is not being enforced by the operators. He also stated that the majority of operators are doing a good job.
- Phillip Johnson commented on the recent Orange Line accident at the Woodman intersection. He asked if studies have been made of traffic flow, the light patterns and synchronization. He noted that the first major Orange Line accident was also at the the Woodman intersection. Mr. Johnson also suggested promoting the SFV Governance Council meetings TV screens on the buses. He suggested giving bus passes to homeless people to allow them to get to their shelters.
- J. Lindfors requested relocation of bus stop at Vineland and Magnolia.
- Malcolm Klugman commented that Line 96 performs poorly and operators use their radios excessively.

4. RECEIVED Chair's remarks

Ms. Richards announced that requested updates for items from previous meetings will only be placed on the agenda when SFV Service Sector staff has something new to report.

Ms. Richards distributed Metro mugs celebrating the Metro APTA award for America's Best Transportation System. She also distributed a button courtesy of APTA's “PT² Partnership for Tomorrow” which states “My other car is the bus”.

- Presented **Resolution to Gary Spivack**, Acting General Manager

Ms. Richards read the text of the resolution being presented to Gary Spivack. Service Sector representatives gave their remarks, some touching and funny, and extended their appreciation for his exemplary work and they called this a well-deserved honor, for his service as interim general manager in the absence of Richard Hunt. After the presentation, Mr. Spivack thanked the Council Members, his staff, the operators, mechanics and Mr. Hunt for their support that propelled the San Fernando Service Sector to its prominence.

He also thanked his MTA family at large for their support in the most recent tragedy of his family, the death of his daughter Abby. He stated that the support was enormously important to his family and gave them comfort through the tragedy. He looks forward to continuing to work with the Governance Council.

Ms. Richards added that MTA Chair Molina adjourned the last MTA Board meeting in memory of Abby Spivack.

Ms. Richards announced that the City of San Fernando Mayor, Nuri Martinez, has been appointed to the vacated position of Council Member Najarian and the nomination will be presented to the MTA Board for approval. Chair Richards asked Mr. Hunt to invite Ms. Martinez to the next Council meeting as an observer.

Also, announced that the next scheduled Governance Council meeting on previously scheduled on January 3, 2007 is moved to January 10, 2007 at the Braude Center at 6:30 p.m. due to the impact of the New Year's holiday.

5. RECEIVED report of Richard Hunt, General Manager

Mr. Hunt expressed his high regard for Gary Spivack's work experience and ethics. He thanked him for his service and stated that the San Fernando Valley Service Sector is fortunate to have him.

- Update on Metro and Sector

Mr. Hunt updated the Council with regard to the Lankershim Depot. He reported that the MTA Board approved the restoration of the Lankershim Depot in its current location. This will include a transit center, operator relief center, security and offices. The City of Los Angeles is participating in the cost of the project. He thanked the Governance Council for supporting the Lankershim Depot project and conveying their support to the MTA Board.

Mr. Hunt stated that the Sector is looking forward to the opening of the Rapid Bus on Reseda Boulevard in December. He stated that articulated vehicles will be used on Van Nuys Blvd. on the 233 local line. It is one of the first local lines to use the articulated vehicles.

Mr. Hunt reported that the photo enforcement on the Orange Line has been completed. There have been 2,500 traffic tickets issued since the photo enforcement has been implemented.

Mr. Hunt also talked about the APTA award and asked everyone from the public present at the meeting to take one Metro mug before leaving. He said that he recognized that transit riders played an important part for Metro to be given this honor. The APTA award is an honor for all of Metro. Mr. Hunt stated that it is a significant improvement and that it Metro will continue to build a first class system.

- Regular Board Meeting Update

Mr. Hunt updated the Council Members on the motion made by MTA Director Antonovich on sector effectiveness. Supervisor Antonovich's staff is looking forward to the Council providing input on what works well with the sectors and what needs to be change. Mr.

Hunt stated that the service sector employees were given questionnaires for their input. He also stated that the MTA Board fully supports the Orange Line to Canoga Park and Chatsworth. With regard to the Consent Decree, Judge Hatter issued an order to allow the Consent Decree to expire by October 29 and stated that the Consent Decree had served its purpose. However the will maintain jurisdiction over the Metro Rapid program until 2010.

Mr. Hunt will report back at next meeting on the following:

- Mayor Villaraigosa's motion regarding reduced fare
- Status of Orange Line Express Service
- Marketing Plan for the upcoming service changes
- Update on the Canoga Park station
- Update on the Long Range Plan

In conclusion, Mr. Hunt expressed that he was glad to be back at the Service Sector office.

Public Comment:

- Carlos Cervantes complimented the operators but complained about rider behavior while the buses are in service. He suggested that operators to enforce order while the bus is moving.

6. **RECEIVED AND FILED Budget Update** by Kathy Drayton, Finance and Administration Manager.

Ms. Drayton reported a positive variance of \$2.4 million for the three months ended September 2006. The actual cost per Revenue Service Hour is \$99.81 compared to the budgeted amount of \$105.45. Fuel continues under budget with a variance of \$704,000. Services continue with a positive variance of \$566,000, which is probably a timing difference. Though there is a net positive variance for the period, there are accounts, notably ATU labor and fringe benefits, with negative variances, which are being monitored to reduce the

negative amounts. Workmen's Compensation continued to increase due to the increasing cost of claims.

Mr. Hunt announced that Ms. Drayton was selected as an APTA Leadership participant for the year 2006-2007. Leadership APTA is a yearlong professional development program that identifies, develops, and supports the next generation of public transportation and APTA leaders.

7. ESTABLISHED **February 7, 2007 for a public hearing to consider service change proposals relating to the implementation of the second phase of Metro Connections for the San Fernando Valley** by Michael Brewer, Service Development Manager.

Mr. Brewer gave a preview of the proposed June service changes.

APPROVED motion to schedule the February regular Governance Council meeting on a date to be determined.

8. RECEIVED **Orange Line Update** by Maria Reynolds, Division 8 Transportation Manager.

Ms. Reynolds reported that the average weekday boardings of the Orange Line for the month of September were back to 21,005. The number of traffic accidents per 100,000 hub miles is .82 and well below the SFV Service Sector target of 2.93.

Ms. Reynolds reported that on October 23, 2006, a truck traveling southbound on Woodman Avenue ran a red light and collided with an east bound Metro Liner. There were approximately 80 passengers on board at the time of the collision. There were 17 reported injuries, 14 of which were transported to local hospitals. The Orange Line bus operator was also transported to a local hospital for medical attention and released later that evening. The accident is still under investigation.

Ms. Reynolds reported on the one-year anniversary of Orange Line that took place on October 24 at the North Hollywood Orange Line

Station. In attendance were MTA Board Member David Fleming, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, LA City Council Members Wendy Gruel and Tom LaBonge, Service Sector representative Dr. Richard Arvizu, CEO Roger Snoble and SFV General Manager Richard Hunt.

Ms. Reynolds quoted MTA Director Yaroslavsky as stating “In our wildest dreams, none of us would have predicted triple ridership we originally projected in the first year. At a cost of \$330 million, a build time of just over two years and high ridership, the Orange Line is one of the most cost-effective transportation projects in the history of Metro, and arguably, the country.”

Service Sector Representative Rosenheim asked staff to report back on the specific opening date of the Canoga Park station. He also requested the status of the Orange Line Expressway study.

Service Sector Representative Wilson requested staff to report back on the correlation of fuel prices and increased ridership.

Public Comment: Malcolm Klugman inquired if the Orange Line is taking revenue away from Metro bus. He also suggested a feasibility study for busway service on Balboa St. between the Orange Line and Sylmar Metrolink Station to Santa Clarita.

9. Service Sector Representatives Closing Remarks.

- Service Sector representative Ochoa announced the dedication of the 1.8 mile bike path on San Fernando Rd. in Sylmar on November 2, 2006.
- Sector Representatives welcomed back SFV General Manager, Richard Hunt.

10. **CLOSED SESSION:**

Personnel Matters – G.C. 54957 (b):

Public Employee Performance Evaluation – San Fernando Service
Sector General Manager.

NO REPORT.

Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



Prepared by: Christina Lumba-Gamboa
Council Secretary