

Committee Action Update

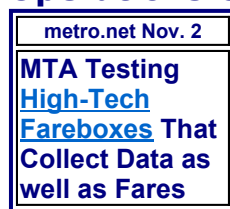
Ops Committee Withdraws Transfer Machine Contract, Approves Low-Floor CNG Bus Buy

(Jan. 20) The Board's Operations Committee withdrew a proposal, Thursday, to award a \$4.5 million contract for 2,240 electronic transfer machines. But, the committee sent forward for consideration by the full Board a motion to exercise a \$75.5 million option to purchase 215 low-floor CNG buses.

The Operations Committee also approved and forwarded for Board discussion a recommendation to purchase 185 non-revenue vehicles and six additional cameras for use in the Metro Blue Line photo enforcement program.

An update of committee actions on "items to watch" for January is presented below. The full Board is scheduled to meet at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 27.

Operations Committee, Jan. 19

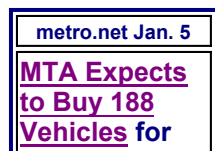


WITHDRAWN. The committee cited possible problems with the procurement. **Electronic Transfer Machines, Item 8:** The Committee will consider a recommendation to award a \$4.5 million contract for 2,240 electronic transfer machines (ETM) to be installed on Metro Buses. ETMs, which print out transfers as requested by patrons, are intended to replace the use of pre-printed paper transfers.

More than 650,000 paper transfers currently are issued to bus operators as they start their shifts each day. Outdated paper transfers are discarded. A study indicates the ETMs can improve internal controls by reducing the opportunity for transfer theft and abuse. They also will serve as an interim measure until the MTA can adopt a Universal Fare System.

APPROVED, with a provision requiring the staff to report back every 60 days on quality procedures to avoid problems and to facilitate corrections. The committee noted that the MTA has no street experience with these buses. **215 Low-Floor Buses, Item 9:** The motion would authorize the CEO to exercise a \$75.5 million contract option with North American Bus Industries to purchase an additional 215 low-floor CNG buses, spare parts and equipment.

The coaches would seat 40 and would feature a simple, folding ramp for mobility-impaired passengers. Based on the manufacturer's preliminary schedule, the MTA could begin receiving the buses in February, 2001, at a rate of 40 buses per month.



APPROVED, sent forward to Board. **Non-Revenue Vehicles, Items 12 and 13:** Together, these two items recommend the purchase of 185 non-revenue vehicles, including 50 sedans, 21 full-size cargo vans

Agency's Non-Revenue Fleet

and 18 mini-pickup trucks for use as operator relief vehicles. The MTA plans to purchase a total of 188 non-revenue vehicles this year.

APPROVED, sent forward to Board. Photo Enforcement Cameras, Item 18: The motion recommends the purchase of six more cameras for use in the Metro Blue Line photo enforcement program. According to a consultant's report, cameras installed at rail crossings have reduced the number of vehicle violations. The new cameras will be placed at intersections along Washington Boulevard to deter left-turn violators.

Because there is only a single source of procurement for the cameras, the Board must pass the motion on a two-thirds vote.

Executive Management Committee, Jan. 20

metro.net
Jan. 13
LA City
Council
Votes to
Join
Valley
Transit
Zone
Authority

APPROVED, sent forward to Board. Valley Transit Zone Study, Item 44: Mayor Richard Riordan's motion would direct the CEO to transfer \$140,000 from the Board's contingency account to the Greater San Fernando Valley Transportation Zone interim Joint Powers Authority (JPA).

The funds would pay a consultant to perform a "bottoms up" analysis of MTA divestiture data. The motion also would direct the MTA to work cooperatively with the JPA and the consultant to refine transit operations subsidy numbers.

Ethics Officer, Item 45: The committee is scheduled to discuss the appointment of a permanent head of the Board's Ethics and Lobby Registration office. The position, which has been vacant since the death of Ryan Nakagawa last year, has been filled on an interim basis by William Lowe.

Planning and Programming Committee, Jan. 20

APPROVED, sent forward to Board. Staples Center, Music Center Service, Item 49: The committee will consider an MTA staff proposal to extend the hours of Metro Rail and Metro Bus service to serve the Staples Center and the Music Center.

The proposal calls for adding one late evening trip on all branches of the Metro Rail system, with the exception of the westbound Metro Red Line. It also would add bus trips on Lines 30 and 81, which operate directly adjacent to the Staples Center. The proposed service change is estimated to cost approximately \$160,000 from April through June.

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