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Board Committees to Consider Motions for December Meeting

- [Items 10 and 31, Subway Construction Ban](#)
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(Nov. 16, 2004) Although no Board of Directors meeting is scheduled in November, Board committees will consider a number of motions, including eliminating a prohibition against subway construction, an amendment to the FY 2005 budget, Metro nomenclature, and TV programming on Metro Buses.

The next full Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 13. No committee meetings are scheduled for December. November committee items include:

Items 10 and 31, Subway

Construction Ban: After his motion was held over from October, Los Angeles City Councilman Tom LaBonge is again asking the Board to "support federal legislation that lifts the prohibition on the use of federal funds..." for subway construction and operation in the area reaching west of Crenshaw Boulevard to North Robertson Boulevard in Beverly Hills.

That area includes a "high potential risk zone" where methane gas has been found in the ground. According to LaBonge's motion, "new technologies have been developed to vent gas, prevent fires and improve the general safety associated with subway construction."

A similar motion in September won unanimous approval of the Los Angeles City Council. The Board's Planning and Programming Committee and the Construction Committee both are scheduled to consider the issue.

Item 22, FY 2005 Budget Amendment: The Finance & Budget Committee will hear a motion to amend the FY 2005 budget to overcome an expected \$20 million shortfall in fare revenues this fiscal year – \$9 million in bus revenues and \$11 million in rail revenues.

November Committee Meetings

- Planning & Programming, 1 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 17
- Executive Management & Audit, 9:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 18
- Finance & Budget, 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 18
- Construction, 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 18
- Operations, 1 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 18

Through the first quarter of FY 2005, fare revenues are under budget by \$4.9 million. Ridership is "relatively flat," according to a Board report, and the fare restructuring increased overall revenues by 2.5 percent, instead of the 10 percent increase projected in the budget.

Projected fare revenues for the fiscal year, based on first quarter results, are \$263 million instead of the \$283 million budgeted, a \$20 million difference.

Item 14, Agency Nomenclature: The Executive Management & Audit Committee will receive a report outlining guidelines for the use of the terms "Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority" and "Metro" and for the Metro logo.

The guidelines are intended to provide "a unified and consistent identification system that will improve public awareness of the agency, and strengthen the perceived connection between the agency and its multiple functions and initiatives."

The logo and nomenclature guidelines will apply to all printed materials, website, projects, signage and vehicles.

The guidelines note that the legal name of the agency is "Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority," while the popular name is "Metro." Official documents should use the full agency name. LACMTA is an acceptable alternative when space is limited.

"Metro" is to be used in any and all internal and external communications and is to replace "MTA." According to a 2003 survey, more than two-thirds of LA County residents are familiar with the agency's logo and associate it with Metro.

Item 17, Transit Television Network: An Orlando, Fla., electronic media company wants to equip Metro Buses with video screens to provide passengers with entertainment, news, weather, games and advertising messages.

The Executive Management & Audit Committee will consider a motion authorizing the CEO to execute a 10-year revenue contract with Transit Television Network (TTN). The contract could earn Metro up to \$67 million over the life of the contract.

In a 90-day test last spring, OPIS received favorable feedback from operators and passengers on two Metro Rapid Line 720 buses. No similar installation is planned at this time on the Metro Red Line.

TTN has installed OPIS units on buses in Orlando and in Milwaukee. It is currently being evaluated by the Chicago and Atlanta transit systems.

Item 8, Santa Monica Transit Corridor: The City of Santa Monica is requesting \$30 million to purchase land for a rail right-of-way for potential future development of a Downtown/Civic Center terminal station for the Metro Exposition Light Rail Line.

The Planning & Programming committee will consider a motion approving withdrawal of the money from the city's Transportation Development Act (TDA) Capital Rail Reserve.

The parcels under consideration total 145,000 square feet and are

located in a one-block area on the north side of I-10 Freeway between Main and Fourth Street or between Fourth and Fifth streets.

In other action, the Operations Committee will receive a report on a Freeway Service Patrol Big Rig demonstration project aimed at clearing accidents within 90 minutes on the I-710 Freeway; a report on the feasibility of converting the last car on Metro Red Line trains for unrestricted bicycle use; a report on an effort to keep debris and rubbish cleaned up on the Union Pacific tracks paralleling the Metro Blue Line; and a report on the "Metro Connections" bus service restructuring program.

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