



[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

- [Safety](#)
- [Pressroom](#) (web)
- [Ask the CEO](#)
- [CEO Forum](#)
- [Employee Recognition](#)
- [Employee Activities](#)
- [Metro Projects](#)
- [Facts at a Glance](#) (web)
- [Archives](#)
- [Events Calendar](#)
- [Research Center/Library](#)
- [Metro Classifieds](#)
- [Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

- [30/10 Initiative](#)
- [Policies](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Help Desk](#)
- [Intranet Policy](#)

Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357

[Contact myMetro.net](#)

Division Improvements, More New Buses, Rail Training Facility on Board Committee Agendas in April

- [Item 12, Sale of Division 20 Parcel](#)
- [Item 37, Division 3 Project](#)
- [Item 38, Division Improvements Project](#)
- [Item 39, ATMS Upgrade](#)
- [Item 40, Rail Operations Training Facility](#)
- [Item 41, Non-Revenue Vehicles](#)
- [Item 42, RRC Storage Facility](#)
- [Item 43, Bus Procurement](#)
- [Item 46, Metro Headquarters Security Upgrades](#)
- [Item 47, Bus Service Changes](#)
- [Item 52, Public Safety Awareness](#)

(April 17, 2007) Motions calling for operating division improvements, ATMS and security upgrades, more new buses, a new rail training facility and a new warehouse building at the RRC, along with other items of interest to employees, are on the Board committee agendas for April.

This month's Board meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, April 30, instead of on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Among items on the agenda for the Board committee meetings are:

Item 12, Sale of Division 20 Parcel. The Finance and Budget Committee will consider a motion to declare a small, unused portion of Metro Red Line Division 20 property to be surplus and to authorize its sale to an adjacent property owner.

The 42,022-square foot, eye-brow shaped parcel, oriented generally north and south, lies on the southern tip of the Division 20 property near the LA River. The parcel is vacant and can't be accessed from a public

April Committee Meetings

Wednesday, April 18

1 p.m. – Planning and Programming
2:30 p.m. – Finance and Budget

Thursday, April 19

9 a.m. – Executive Management and Audit
10:30 a.m. – Construction
12 noon – Operations

April 30, 9:30 a.m.

Full Board Meeting

street. A report to the Board says this portion of the larger parcel is “not required for any future Metro transit projects....”

Chalmers Santa Fe, LLC, has offered to purchase the land for \$1.05 million. Conditions of the sale exclude a portion of the property that houses signal system equipment and requires the new owner to grant Metro an emergency access easement from Santa Fe Avenue.

Item 37, Division 3 Project. The Operations Committee will consider a motion to set a \$1.6 million life-of-project budget for a major reconstruction of warehousing facilities at North Los Angeles Division 3.

Last May, the Board established a budget of \$894,000 for a project to upgrade only the warehouse facility, but subsequent studies showed that the division, which has operated in its current configuration since the 1970s, required additional work. The expanded project could include demolition of some buildings, and construction of offices and other structures.

This project complements the upgrades described in Item 38, which focuses on improving Division 3 as a whole.

A conceptual design encompassing both projects is to be completed in May. A contractor solicitation will be released after that, with a contract award expected in November. The project should be completed in FY 2008.

Item 38, Division Improvements Project. Five bus operating divisions would undergo major upgrades under a motion to be considered by the Operations Committee. The proposed \$13.7 million project entails renovation and improvements at divisions 1, 3, 8, 9 and 15 – all of which were constructed between 1974 and 1984.

The planned improvements range from division to divisions, however, some include replacing bus washing systems, building more storerooms and installing automatic parts storage systems, modernizing the maintenance shops and shop equipment, renovating operator break areas and administrative spaces, and upgrading security. The goal of the proposed improvements is to increase the life of the facilities by at least 25 years, according to a staff report.

Item 39, ATMS Upgrade. The Operations Committee will consider a motion to set a life-of-project budget of \$12.1 million for upgrading the Advanced Transportation Management System. The ATMS system installation was completed on all 2,400 Metro buses in May 2004.

During the proposed multi-year project, ATMS improvements would include software enhancements and workstation upgrades, additional portable radios, a disaster recovery system, upgrades to the Windows XP program and many other improvements.

A staff report says, “there is a need to expand the ATMS system capabilities to meet the coming operational challenges as well as to take advantage of improvements in the technology and transit industry.”

Item 40, Rail Operations Training Facility. A proposal to build a new training facility for Metro Rail operators and supervisors, rail controllers, maintenance-of-way inspectors and equipment maintenance specialists will be considered by the Operations Committee at its April meeting. Although no site has been selected, the building is expected to be

located at the Metro Red Line Maintenance-of-Way Facility, Location 61.

The training facility, estimated to cost approximately \$17.6 million, will include classrooms and specialized training labs with equipment simulators that can be used to train equipment repair staff. It also will include rail vehicle simulators to train operators prior to over-the-rails training.

Currently, training is conducted at the rail divisions, Rail Operations Control and at the maintenance-of-way buildings, a practice that requires duplicate equipment and facilities, according to a staff report.

Item 41, Non-Revenue Vehicles. The Operations Committee will consider a motion to establish a \$10.8 million life-of-project budget in FY 2008 to purchase non-revenue vehicles to support the Metro Bus system.

Metro's policy for replacement of non-revenue vehicles calls for sedans and light-duty vehicles, such as those used to make operator relief, to be replaced at six years or 100,000 miles and for medium- to heavy-duty trucks to be replaced every seven years or 150,000 miles, according to a staff report.

Due to budget reductions over the past four years, some non-revenue vehicles have exceeded the age and mileage limits set by policy. The report adds that, "Metro has invested labor and material into non-revenue vehicles that far exceed the value of the equipment."

Item 42, RRC Storage Facility. Plans to further centralize Materiel and Facilities Maintenance functions at the Regional Rebuild Center campus continue with a motion before the Operations Committee to establish a life-of-project budget of \$12.9 million for construction of a new building on property adjacent to the RRC.

The Bauchet Street Warehouse and Facilities Maintenance Structure would centralize such Facilities Maintenance, Communications and Materiel functions as warehousing, Stops & Zones, property maintenance and the Sign Shop, all currently located at the soon-to-be-closed South Park facility.

Originally, the plan called for Metro to construct a single Materiel warehouse on a parcel at 490 Bauchet St. at a projected cost of \$2.7 million. Renovating the RRC building to accommodate functions moving from South Park and constructing underground parking for employee cars would have brought the cost of the entire project to an estimated \$18 million.

By purchasing a second property at 496 Bauchet St., Metro will be able to build a larger building with greater capacity and to provide surface parking for Metro vehicles adjacent to the new building. The \$12.9 million estimated cost of the revised project is a savings to Metro of about \$5 million.

Item 43, Bus Procurement. The Operations Committee will consider a motion establishing a budget of \$86.4 million to purchase up to 100 60-foot CNG articulated buses from North American Bus Industries during FY 2008.

Under the motion, the CEO would be authorized to negotiate and execute a contract option with NABI to buy the buses. The original

contract was awarded to NABI in February 2003. Board action would increase the original contract cost from \$221.7 million to \$308.2 million.

The first option for 94 additional buses, currently being delivered to Metro, was authorized in September 2005.

Item 46, Metro Headquarters Security Upgrades. Additional surveillance cameras and card readers would be installed to enhance security at Metro Headquarters under a \$395,000 proposal to be considered by the Operations Committee.

In June 2003, the Board of Directors authorized a five-year program to increase the effectiveness of security systems for the Gateway Building and parking garage. The improvements include a comprehensive closed-circuit TV surveillance system and upgrades to access card reader units.

The agency was awarded \$345,000 in federal funding, through the State of California Transit Security Grant Program, for the security project. To ensure a continued high level of security, the Metro staff also is requesting an additional \$50,000 for future enhancements.

A staff report notes that Metro Headquarters is a "critical operational asset" that houses vital management, planning, construction and financial operations, along with "centralized network servers and other critical ITS functions" and Bus Operations Control. Adequate security and protection, the report says, "is essential to the functioning of the Metro system."

Item 47, Bus Service Changes. In preparation for the June shakeup, Metro is planning a series bus service changes for consideration by the Operations Committee. The goal of the changes is to attract new riders by providing faster service and improving efficiency by reducing service in corridors with low ridership or duplicate service.

Among the changes proposed for 12 of Metro's Tier 1 bus routes are initiating two new Rapid Express services: Line 940 between the South Bay Galleria Transit Center and Patsaouras Transit Plaza and Line 920 between the Wilshire/Vermont Metro Rail station and downtown Santa Monica. The plan also calls for a new Metro Rapid Line 760 between downtown LA and the Metro Blue Line Artesia station, and a new Metro Rapid Line 704 on Santa Monica Boulevard.

Item 52, Public Safety Awareness. The Operations Committee will consider a motion by Director Bonnie Lowenthal directing Metro Communications to work with the Safety and Security Department, the Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau and Metro Security staff to "develop appropriate, highly visible signage that will promote crime deterrence and safety on the Metro bus and Rail system."

The motion directs Communications to "revive and maintain" various safety and security campaigns and safety materials, and to work with the Governance Councils "to promote customer safety and security information appropriate to the individual sector." Communications would be required to provide the Board an implementation plan within 90 days.