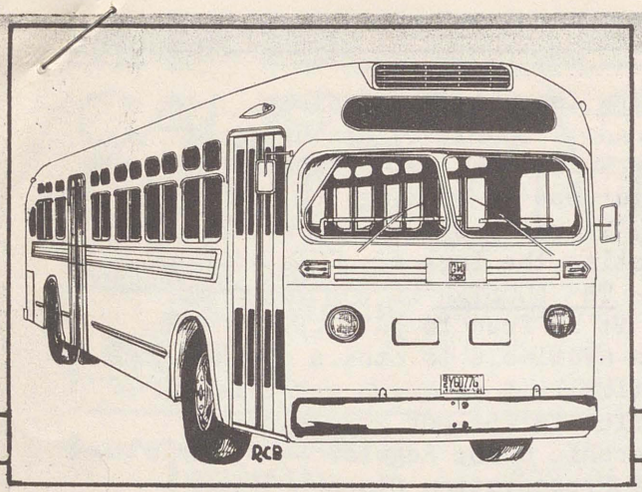


THE BOOSTER

Monthly Publication of The United Transit Boosters

'Dedicated to Better Transit'

Vol. 3, No. 11 November, 1965 Six Pages

PHILA

Agreement between the Philadelphia Transportation Company and the Southeast Pennsylvania Transit Authority on a purchase price of $59.7 million for the local transit operation has been reached. This is the first step in SEPTA's plan to unify transit works in the five county Philadelphia area. The agreement is subject to court approval, PTC stockholders ratification, and SEPTA's ability to sell the required amount of bonds. SEPTA also plans to acquire Red Arrow Lines, lease the Pennsylvania Railroad and Reading Company commuter lines, and purchase all the small bus lines in the suburban areas.

ST.PAUL

TWIN CITY LINES has recently instituted a 120 day experiment providing an express bus service between St. Paul and a nearby suburb. The schedule calls for four rush hour bus trips using a newly completed freeway between downtown St. Paul and the Har-Mar Mall Shopping Cntr. in Roseville. Independent bus companies have tried to serve the area, but their attempts have failed. To insure greater success with the new service TCL officials have been running ads in newspapers, home mailing of schedules, and contacting civic groups to help publicize the service.

PORTLAND

ROSE CITY TRANSIT COMPANY RECENTLY inaugurated 5 new bus routes and made major changes in ten existing routes which will extend RCT service to the growing Southwest Portland area.

ST.LOUIS

THE BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY which operates the BI-STATE TRANSIT SYSTEM recently purchased the CONSOLIDATED SERVICE CAR COMPANY which had operated about eighty jitney-type vehicles in North St. Louis competing with some of BSTS major lines. With the withdrawl of the jitney service, schedules on the WELLSTON, PAGE, and DELMAR bus routes will be increased to accommodate the present service car riders---167 daily trips will be added. Initially spare buses which BSTS owns will be used on the expanded services, but eventually a fleet of new air-conditioned coaches will be in operation. Present CSCC drivers will receive preferential treatment by BSTS if they chose to become bus drivers. If they are unable to meet the standards, an attempt will be made to place them elsewhere in BSTS operations.

SILVER SPRING

A one month trial of Minibus service in Silver Spring, Md. was recently put into operation. The 18 seat vehicles run on a 15 minutely headway from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M., Monday through Saturday at a 5 cent fare. The route will cover the shopping section, several apartment areas, and parking lots, and a round trip will take 25 minutes. D.C. TRANSIT SYSTEM is suppling both the personnel and vehicles for the test. The town of Silver Spring is putting up $2500 of the cost ot the operation.

CLUB NEWS

MEETING NOTICE: The November,1965 meeting of the UNITED TRANSIT BOOSTERS WILL be held on Sunday, November 14, 1965. It will be convened at 7:30 P.M. in the second floor meeting hall of the Manufacturers Bank, which is located at 7014 Sunset Boulevard in the Hollywood District of Los Angeles. The building in which the meeting will be held is located on the southeast corner of Sunset Blvd. and Sycamore Ave. which is one block west of Highland Avenue. Access to the meeting room is obtained from the parking lot at the rear of the building. The meeting will be called to order at 7:30P.M.

The meeting location can be reached quite easily from most parts of the Los Angeles area. From downtown Los Angeles ride Line 42--SUNSET BLVD. (disembark at Sunset & Orange Dr.), Line 91--HOLLYWOOD BLVD. (walk from either Hollywood and Orange or Sunset & La Brea), or Line 93--LOS ANGELES-VAN NUYS-PACOIMA (walk from Sunset & Highland); these coaches can be boarded northbound on Hill Street in downtown. From the Southwest side, Lines 85-CRENSHAW-VINE-LA BREA or 89--FAIRFAX AVENUE will take you to Sunset and La Brea. From Pasadena, Eagle Rock, Glendale, the Los Feliz district, or East Hollywood Line 31--HOLLYWOOD-GLENDALE-PASADENA will take you to Hollywood and Orange Drive. From San Fernando Valley communities the following service is available: Line93--LOS ANGELES-VAN NUYS-PACOIMA will take you to Sunset and Highland; from Tarzana, Encino, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Magnolia Park, Lockheed Air Terminal, or Burbank, Line 81--VENTURA BLVD.-HOLLYWOOD-LOCKHEED-BURBANK will take you to Hollywood and Highland which is a five block walk.

Meetings for the months of December and January will be held at the same time and place. The dates for these meetings are December 12 and January 16.

Each meeting consists of a business session, an auction of transit material, plus entertainment, such as color slides.

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CALIFORNIA CAPITULATIONS

By Warren F. Quon

EQUIPMENT PURCHASES:

The following equipment, that we know of, was acquired during November:

New Buses Property	Coach Numbers	Builder	Model/Serial Numbers	Notes and Comments
Sacramento Transit Authority	311-315	G. M. C.	TDH-4519/?	Air-conditioned
Southern California Rapid Transit District	6000-6099	Flxible	F2DV8C-401-1/ 52517-52616	Cummins V-8 Diesel eng.
American Buslines	6944-6945	Silver Eagle/6814-6815		
	6946-6947	Silver Eagle/6817-6818		
	6948-6952	Silver Eagle/6826-6830		
Used Buses				
Oxnard Municipal Transit	---------	G. M. C.	TGH-3101/680-681	Ex Montebello Nos. 22 & 38
Gray Line of San Francisco	210-219	G. M. C.	PD-4104/341-350*	Ex-CPCT 88-97
	220-228	G. M. C.	PD-4104/333-340*	Ex-WGL 7250-58
	229	G. M. C.	PD-4104/301	Ex-WGL 7240
California Parlor Car Tours	71-79	G. M. C.	PD-4104/4824-4832	Ex-WGL 7651-7659. 39 seats & rrm.
Gray Line Sightseeing Tours (L. A.)	703-704	Beck	-----	Ex-GLOW, 41 seats, intercity
Gray Line Sightseeing Tours (L. A.)	801-805	G. M. C.	PD-4106/602-606	Ex-Gray Line of Washington
Associated Charter Bus	811-812	G. M. C.	PD-4106/435-436 Open, rear entrance	Ex Orange Belt Stages Nos. 122, 124
Associated Charter Bus	RT 118	----	Double Decker	Ex-London Transport
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District	4902	Kassbohrer	Super Golden Eagle/ 27794	Ex-Continental Western Lines 4902--to be converto 75-seat commuter bus

WESTERN GREYHOUND LINES (WGL):

On November 23, two round trips were added between State Line and Reno on the SACRAMENTO-PLACERVILLE-RENO route. Previously, there was only one trip per day, this to and from Sacramento.

During the month, 9321-9322, G. M. Coach PD-4151 "Silversides" used on the LONG BEACH-SANTA MONICA local line were replaced by 8639-8640, which are G. M. Coach PD-4104's equipped with restrooms and fareboxes. 9450-9454, G. M. Coach TDM-4801's with 50 seats, continue in service on the line--the only Los Angeles division line using transit-type equipment.

DUES NOTICE: 1966 Dues are payable now--1965 members will receive Dec. issue
SUBSCRIBERS NOTICE: 1966 remittance will be due after Dec. issue is received

CALIFORNIA CAPITULATIONS (CONTINUED):

SAN DIEGO TRANSIT SYSTEM (SDTS):

SDTS has filed an application with the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California (PUC) to discontinue lines B--ALLIED GARDENS-FAIRMONT PARK, D--LA JOLLA-ASTRONAUTICS PLANT, G--DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO-ASTRONAUTICS PLANT C--30th STREET-NAVAL STATION, and the Lemon Grove portion of Line J--FLETCHER HILLS-LEMON GROVE. The company has also asked to eliminate Saturday service on Lines F--LA MESA, K--CATALINA BLVD., and T--CROWN POINT. It is also proposed to combine lines 12-PARADISE HILLS and W--NATIONAL CITY into a single route. Total losses on the five lines have amounted to approximately $80,000 per year.

HIGHLAND TRANSIT, INC. (HT):

HT moved its garage from 5th & Palos Verdes, in San Pedro, a few blocks up 5th St. to 5th & Mesa--directly across the street from the yard of SAN PEDRO TRANSIT LINES and LA RAMBLA BUS LINES. The move was necessary because of construction of a parking lot on the lite of the former garage. It is now possible to view, from one location, all yards of the local San Pedro operations, with the exception of the Barton Hills line. Many cannibalized Ford Transit buses are on the property, at the sight of the new barn.

HT operates the Ninth St. and Gaffey Street lines in San Pedro. The bus situation has deteriorated to such an extent that the San Pedro operators borrow buses from each other, frequently, to keep bus service running.

PALM SPRINGS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, INC. (PSTS):

PSTS, the new operator in this Southern California desert community, recently purchased a new 18-seat Minibus, with airconditioning and an open rear observation platform. The sides are painted as a mural depicting Palm Springs, "Fun in the Sun" attraction.

SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL BUS LINES (SMMBL):

Beginning November 26, on Fridays and Saturdays through December 14, and then daily until December 23, SMMBL ran a special free bus between the Sears, Roebuck & Co. store and the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium parking lot on a ten minute headway between approximately 10:30AM and5:30PM

TOM PRIOR, Director of Transportation for SMMBL, told us that SMMBL expects to receive, for summer delivery, two G. M. Coach 41-reclining seat, air-conditioned suburban coaches (probably SDM-4502's).

A new pedestrian mall open during the month on Third Street in downtown Santa Monica. A small open-sided Mini-Bus, running on a 15 minute headway between Sears and the end of the mall, provides transportation for a 10¢ fare. An all-day pass is also available for 25¢.

Although, as we reported here earlier, (TB-8/65) SMMBL coaches Nos. 4501-4503 and 118 and 121 were sold to OGDEN BUS LINES, apparently OBL let their option drop, because 4501-4503 plus 4506-4508 showed-up in Washington D. C., operating on AB&W TRANSIT. These buses were numbered 835-840 by AB&W; their serial numbers are TDH-4512/877-879, 1006-1008. As of our last inspection of the SMMBL lot, TDH-3714's 118 and 121 were still there.

STOCKTON METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (SMTD):

The new Stockton paint scheme was introduced in September (TB-10/65) with the arrival of new SMTD coaches. The scheme, which is basicly white with turquoise belt rail and salmon-red "skirts", besides appearing on SMTD's new buses has been applied to their TDH-4517's, Nos. 1501-1504. It has also been applied to some of the other former STOCKTON CITY LINES coaches, specifically, 1617, 1623, 1624, 1625 and 1626 (as of November 25th), which are G. M. Coach TDH-3610's.

CALIFORNIA CAPITULATIONS (CONTINUED):

AMERICAN BUSLINES INC.(AB):

This division of CONTINENTAL TRAILWAYS recently purchased three new Silver Eagles from the Bus and Car Company in Belgium. The buses have been assigned to the LOS ANGELES-S. LT LAKE CITY route.

CONTINENTAL TRAILWAYS/GREYHOUND LINES:

On November 1st, both Trailways and Greyhound reintroduced the winter only $99.00 pass, good for 99 days of travel. They also introduced two other big travel discounts: (1) a plan whereby you save 50% on your return trip instead of the usual 20% on a round tripfare; and (2) a Family Plan where one full fare is collected, and the other members of the family pay 75% of the regular fare. A restriction has been placed on the plans that they are valid for Monday thru Friday travel only. It is the wish of the major intercity companies to attract more midweek business.

LAS VEGAS TRANSIT SYSTEM (LVTS):

LVTS are the initials of the new operation that has taken over from the former VEGAS TRANSIT LINES, which was formerly owned by TANNER GRAY LINE. Of unusual interest is the replacement of the fleet of mixed 31-seat gas, and 36 and 45-seat diesel G. M. Coach squarys with ten used TDH-4517's and two new TDH-4519's.

The company has reduced slightly the service on Line 6--THE STRIP from 10 to 15 minutely, however the 15 minute headway continues until 1:45AM; the last bus leaves town at 3:15AM.

EXECUTIVE CHARTER LINES (ECL):

ECL, of San Francisco, is believed to be a new charter operator. At least one of their buses, if they have more than one, was seen. Numbered 4101, it is a G. M. Coach PD-4151 "Silverside". It is painted white and light green. A sign on the bus reads, "Owned and operated by Cantwell Bros., of Oakland".

C L A S S I F I E D A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

WANTED:

Photos in following PACIFIC ELECTRIC bus series: 315-317 (Twin 30-R), 2220-2260 (White 798); 2320-2324 (White 798); 2395-2399 (White 798); 2600-2618 (GMC TDH-4507); 2619-2638 (GMC TD-4507); 2639-2677 (YC TD-4502); 2678-2699 (GMC TD-4506); 3000-3024 (White 798); 225-232 (GMC PDA-4101) 2422 (White 798); 2150 (Twin 52-S2); 2700 (GMC TDH-4510); 2900-2934 (GMC TDH-4801).
Harry E. Bennett, Jr., 1804 North Mount St., Baltimore, Maryland 21217.

WANTED:

Serial numbers and corresponding coach numbers for WESTERN GREYHOUND LINES "Scenicruisers" (G. M. Coach PD-4501's) Nos. 8217-8219. Also will trade serial numbers rosters, etc.
Kenneth W. Kau, 8101 Fourth Avenue, North Bergen, New Jersey.

WANTED:

Information on equipment, routes and schedules on all present and past (fully owned) NATIONAL CITY LINES owned subsidiaries. Preparing special study on the subject.
Edmund A. Buckley, Jr., 1167 North Seranno Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90029.

SCRTD RTD REPORT BY DAVID P. LANDES

SERVICE CHANGES MADE:

Effective December 26, changes in service were made on some lines. The changes were:

Line 3--WEST SIXTH-CENTRAL AVE.: Weekday base headways reduced from 7/15 to 10/20 minutes.

Line 7--EAGLE ROCK-SOUTH BROADWAY: Weekday base headways were changed from 12/24 to 15 minutes. The Verdugo Rd. branch was changed to a half-hourly shuttle service from the former through service to Los Angeles.

Line 14--NORTH HOLLYWOOD-BURBANK-VALLEY PLAZA: Weekday base service on the Victory Blvd. leg was reduced from half-hourly to hourly.

Line 18--EAST JEFFERSON-COLISEUM: Sunday headways were reduced from 30 to 40 minutes.

Line 20--EAST GLENOAKS-KENNETH ROAD.: Saturday headways cut from 20 to 30 minutes.

Line 27--VERNON-SANTA BARBARA-LA CIENEGA: Saturday headways cut from 20 to 30 minutes.

Line 31--HOLLYWOOD-GLENDALE-PASADENA: All evening service was reduced from 40 minutely to hourly and Saturday service from 30 to 40 minutes.

Line 42--SUNSET-TEMPLE: Saturday service went from 7/15 to 10/20 minutes, and Sunday from 10/20 to 15/30 minutes.

Lines 52--LOS ANGELES-ALHAMBRA-SAN GABRIEL-TEMPLE CITY, 68--LOS ANGELES-MONROVIA-GLENDORA, 70--LOS ANGELES-PASADENA VIA OAK KNOLL and 71--LOS ANGELES-PASADENA VIA SHORT LINE: Saturdays were cut from 30/60 minutes to 40/80 minutes

Line 60--LOS ANGELES-POMONA-RIVERSIDE-SAN BERNARDINO-REDLANDS-YUCAIPA: Week-end service to Yucaipa was discontinued. Formerly there were three round trips on Saturdays and two on Sundays.

Line 85--CRENSHAW-VINE-LA BREA: Sunday headway was reduced from 20 to 30 minutes

Line 92--WATTS-SIERRA VISTA: Weekday base service between 8th & Main and Los Angeles County General Hospital's Outpatient Clinic was doubled to provide an approximate 10 minute headway from 11:00AM to 3:00PM.

Line 94--SANTA MONICA BLVD.: Sunday service was reduced from 20 to 30 minutes.

NEWS AND NOTES:

The new 1966 budget calls for purchase of 100 additional 50-seat city transit buses, rebuilding of 55 more TDH-4801's (only 70 of the 125 proposed for rebuilding were actually rebuilt) and improvements in several directions.

A minor rerouting has been made on Line 8--WEST 54th STREET-NORTH MAIN. All service now operates via what was formerly a rush-hour only--via Mission Road, Baldwin St., and Lincoln Park Ave. to North Broadway. Base service formerly ran direct via Mission and Lincoln Park to North Boradway.

A feasibility study on the possibility of a bus line from the San Fernando Valley (probably Van Nuys) to Westwood in West Los Angeles via the San Diego Freeway has shown that the line would probably generate enough revenue to pay only one-half of its operating cost. For this reason, consideration is being given to applying for a Federal Demonstration Grant to finance the line.

Groundbreaking for the new GREYHOUND-SCRTD depot in Downtown Los Angeles occurred in October.