

MTA Board Approves Governance Council for Gateway Cities Service Sector

The MTA Board of Directors today approved the nominees for Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Governance Council. The council will work closely with the service sector and local community to help govern ongoing bus service improvements for the Gateway Cities area of Los Angeles.

The governance council is comprised of four community transit consumers and three elected officials. Community transit consumer members include: Joann Ero-Delgado of the unincorporated portion of Whittier; Jacqueline Rynerson, a community activist in the City of Lakewood; Cynde Soto from the City of Long Beach; and Wally Shidler, a public transit advocate from the Walnut Park area. The elected officials for the Gateway Cities Governance Council are: Larry Nelson, Artesia Council Member; Bonnie Lowenthal, Long Beach City Council Member; and Samuel Pena, Maywood Mayor Pro Tem.

The purpose of the council is to improve bus service and localize control by increasing public access to the service sector and ensure responsiveness to customers. The council will also work with transit planners, local authorities and transit operators to ensure coordination of service and will hold public hearings to gain input on proposed changes.

Under the bylaws, governance councils have the authority to change, add, or delete service in conformance with MTA service standards, policies and collective bargaining agreements.

The council will be required to conduct regularly scheduled monthly meetings. These meeting dates will be announced soon.

Community-based service sectors were created last year to localize control of bus operations and improve the quality of service to MTA transit customers. They are: The Metro San Fernando Valley Service Sector, The Gateway Cities Service Sector, The Metro Central/Westside Service Sector, the Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Sector and the Metro South Bay Service Sector.

The Gateway Cities Service Sector serves 26 cities and unincorporated areas of Southeast Los Angeles County.

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