

MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

Westside/Central Service Sector Governance Council

Regular Meeting

La Cienega Tennis Center
325 S. La Cienega Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Called to order at: 2:05 p.m.

Council Members present:

Presley Burroughs
Peter Capone-Newton
Carol Gross
Helen Johnson
Stephanie Negriff
Joyce Perkins
Brad Robinson
Anny Semonco



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

Service Sector General Manager, Jim McElroy, introduced Sector staff:

Suzanne Handler, Executive Secretary
Roy Gandra, Service Development Manager
Michele Jackson – Council Secretary
Jody Feerst Litvak, Community Relations Manager
Jovan Owens, Intern
Valarie Harrison, Community Relations Officer
Deputy David Vargas and Lieutenant Pat Jordan, L.A. Sheriff's Dept.

1. Administered Oath of Office to Council Members.

2. Council Organization

A. Election of Officers

Stephanie Negriff nominated Carol Gross as Chair and Joyce Perkins nominated Peter Capone-Newton for Vice Chair. Both motions were seconded and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Chair Gross recognized MTA Board Member, Pam O'Connor, and San Fernando Valley Governance Council Member, Bart Reed.

B. Terms of Service by lottery 2/3 years

Two-Year Terms

Presley Burroughs
Stephanie Negriff
Helen Johnson
Peter Capone-Newton

Three-Year Terms

Carol Gross
Joyce Perkins
Brad Robinson
Anny Semonco

C. Setting of regular meeting dates

The first month of each quarter, meetings will be held on the 1st Thursday at 3 p.m. In the second month of each quarter, one meeting will be held on the 1st Thursday at 3 p.m. and a second meeting will be held on the 4th Thursday at 7 p.m. There will be no regularly scheduled meeting during the 3rd month of the quarter.

3. RECEIVED update from the General Manager

- state of the State Budget Crisis and impact to MTA, presented by

Government Relations Office, State Affairs, Kimberly Yu, reported that staff is seeking sponsors for bills that would help the MTA. When the gas tax was approved in 2002, specific projects were tied to the proposition 42. The Governor is now saying that those lists no longer apply, which would mean that the San Fernando Valley Busway and Eastside Light Rail projects could be cut. Staff is currently meeting with the Governor's staff and seeking legal advice regarding his ability to change what was approved by voters.

- overview of sector and report on Route Assessments and Planning

Sector General Manager, Jim McElroy, reported that the Westside/Central Service Sector contains Divisions 6, 7 and 10, which are Venice, West Hollywood and Gateway. This is the largest sector with the highest ridership and the most buses.

- discussion of Annual Work program

Mr. McElroy noted that he will be focusing on budget performance, safety and customer service.

- update on Safety's First Program

Pam Engelke, Corporate Safety, presented MTA's safety vision:

Safety's first for our customers, employees and business partners as we plan, construct, operate and maintain the region's transportation system.

She also noted the following safety principles: safety is a 24/7 priority; it is everyone's responsibility; accidents and injuries are preventable; working safely is a condition of employment; training is essential for good safety performance; management is accountable for safety. Ms. Engelke stressed the fact that most injuries are caused by unsafe acts. Unsafe conditions account for only about 4% of all injuries.

She concluded by advising everyone to be careful with their cell phone usage, especially when driving.

4. Public Comment - None

Councilmember Comments/Requests

Presley Burroughs requested performance indicator analysis.

Stephanie Negriff asked staff to look at the possibility of holding community meetings regarding the service changes proposed for June.

Helen Johnson complained about the poor quality of bus service in the Vermont corridor.

Next meeting scheduled for February 5, 2004 at 3 p.m., La Cienega Tennis Center.

Adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Michele Jackson, Council Secretary