

# MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

## SAN FERNANDO SERVICE SECTOR GOVERNANCE COUNCIL MEETING

Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center  
6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91401

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Called to Order at 6:30 p.m

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COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Coby King, Chair  
David Fleming  
Joan H. Leonard  
Rafi Manoukian  
Jesus Ochoa  
Bart Reed  
Brad Rosenheim  
Kymberleigh Richards

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Officers:

David Armijo, General Manager  
Marta Maestas-Mack,  
Communications Manager  
Christina Lumba-Gamboa, Council  
Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro**

1. APPROVED Minutes of December 3, 2003 Council Meeting with the exception of Mr. Rafi Manoukins, for the record.
  
2. Public Comment
  - Pat O'Connor – read comments from the Daily News re on-time schedule of Line 561 in conjunction with Line 233;
  - Cat Dodson – regarding Line 761, a nightmare for the handicap and disabled;
  - Rick Rofman – brought a note of good cheer and levity; received a star car miniature from MTA customer service;
  - Vince Garafalo – commented on the “day passes”; He believes it’s a rip-off;
  - Ernest A. Scotti – driver of the 761 line; commented that the Rapid Lines are being sabotage by adding all these extra stops on the line itself; suggests that Council consider input from the drivers with regards to the 761 line route.
  
3. RECEIVED an oral Report of the General Manager, David Armijo
  - Positive feedback on the Day Pass; working toward the migration process of fare systems that will be used like Universal Card Systems
  - Job Access & Reverse Commute (JARC) Federal Grant from San Fernando to Sylmar. Programmed some funds to the tune of \$1.4 million that are now being released, locally approved to go into a funding process that is to be acted upon by the MTA Board in the coming weeks. Should that occur, that operation will go in effect a year from now and branch out the San Fernando Valley services
  - San Fernando Rapidway
  - Recovery from labor stoppage
  - Final budget numbers are not yet available. Currently looking at the first 6 months projections as a result of the strike. The cost right now is currently \$5 million under budget which is due to overtime, contract services, etc. which will be modified and be eventually transferred back to the head office account.

4. RECEIVED an oral report on **Community Relations**, Marta Maestas-Mack  
Community Relations Manager

Ms. Maestas-Mack reported on the Rapidway Landscape meetings that occurred simultaneously with the Council meetings. She reported that the meetings were scheduled and predetermined by the contractors. Construction community relations stated that in the future, the meetings will be coordinated with the Service Sector and will not occur at the same time as the Council meetings. Ms. Maestas reported that during the strike, they were able to develop a comprehensive email database to reach out to different stakeholders including the council. By the end of the strike, we are continuing our outreach and keeping in touch with them. Eric Rapp is the lead on the contact of the governance council, to date he has emailed tentative schedules, actual briefings, etc. Ms. Maestas also, stated that there will be a public hearing for the Proposed Service Changes for public input, so the community will know what's going on. The public hearing will be scheduled at the end of February and early March.

With regards to outreach and Council participations, MTA introduced the Metro Connections program. Metro Connections is now the working title of the "hub and spoke program" for the MTA. There is a development group under Operations that is working to outreach stakeholders and local officials. A workshop is being set up with the governance council sometime in February. It could be part of the council meeting or at a later date that will cover things like the revised update of the Metro Connections, concepts of the hub, and consideration of routes of the San Fernando Valley and strategizing with a community focus group.

Ms. Leonard wanted to know what the council briefings exactly entail. Ms. Maestas responded that basic overview of what the role of the Service Sector in the valley, the Metro Rapid update and the North/South Corridors.

Ms. Richards wants to know when the annual meeting of all Service Sectors Council meeting with the CEO and Deputy CEO going to occur.

It was suggested that Council agenda and briefings be published and distributed also at the divisions.

5. RECEIVED a briefing on **Proposed June 04 Service Changes** in San Fernando Valley Sector by Mike Brewer, Service Development Manager.

Mr. Brewer reported that due to the labor stoppage, there will be considerable less time to accomplish various tasks including the Service Changes program for June but staff are focusing in 3 major tasks:

- The Consent Decree, which deals with managing the passenger loads on the buses that the MTA operates;
- On-time performance. To improve the on-time performance of the service by going through and managing the running time so that people are able to complete their trips and arrive at their destinations;
- Hub and Spoke or Metro Connections that is a major re-structuring of the bus route system of the whole MTA

The service lines 761 and the 233 service changes are being proposed in June. Based on the input from the council and the public, Mr. Brewer reported that they have moved forward to install two brand new stops (Riverside/Magnolia and Chase/Van Nuys) and is currently into effect and operational.

Ms. Leonard had suggested that the bus stop should be at Houston/Riverside instead of Riverside/Magnolia.

Mr. Brewer reported that the performance of the newly installed stops will be continually monitored for performance and in the event that they do not perform well, they are open to the possibility of removing them or looking at other areas and keep an open mind to improve the service.

Mr. King suggested rerouting the 561 Line and getting more service miles. Mr. Brewer stated that one of the objectives of the Metro Connections program is to create route I alignments that don't duplicate one another so that the system can be put into effect in a more economical way.

Mr. Rosenheim asked if the Metro Connections is a major change for the June shakeup.

Mr. Brewer responded that there would be no actual service change will take place in June. The planning process is underway, doing passenger analysis, and segment analysis. Mr. Rosenheim asked how could the council become part of the process as oppose to just being presented to?

Mr. Armijo responded that there are 3 facets to that:

- Workshop in February when it is laid out, an overview of what's going to happen in the next 2 years, the phases which includes the community outreach, which also include an opportunity for the governance councils to play an active role;
- Series of community local meetings and lay out the hubs, what are the hubs in San Fernando valley, what includes the hubs, and what makes a hub;
- Lay out the Rapidway

Mr. King expressed his concern regarding the Metro Connection. The potential is a great benefit for San Fernando valley and the system as a whole, but a significant change and people who are used to the system operating in a system in a certain way, are going to learn a whole new system.

Mr. Reed commented that operators should be included in the planning process of service changes.

Mr. King asked that the council be informed of initial thoughts and staff analysis of the Metro Connections involving the valley.

#### 6. **CONSIDER Scheduling Council Retreat**

Will announce a specific date by the next meeting.

#### 7. **Chair's Remarks**

Mr. King was pleased to announce that the Resolution opposing Yaroslavsky motion to cut travel allowance was defeated. Travel allowance is still in place. Mr. King encouraged the council to look at listing of conferences and workshops.

#### 8. **Council Member's Comments**

- Mr. Manoukian requested to receive the agenda in a timely manner and published on the web at least 10 days before the scheduled meeting.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Marvin Braude Constituent Center

Community Room

6262 Van Nuys Blvd.

Van Nuys, CA 91401

Christina Lumba-Gamboa  
Council Secretary