MTA Board Approves Contract Agreement with ATU

- Westside/Central Service Sector Council, Item 34.
- Remanufacture of Rail Grinder, Item 17.
- New Rail Traction Substations, Item 23.

(Dec. 5, 2003) The MTA Board unanimously approved the contract agreement with the ATU, Thursday, but left the health and welfare issue for resolution at a later date.

That issue may be the subject of continued negotiations or could be considered by a three-member arbitration panel made up of a member appointed by MTA, one appointed by ATU and a third neutral member.

Meanwhile, negotiations between MTA and the UTU, representing bus and rail operators, and the TCU, representing clerks and custodians, are continuing.

Westside/Central Service Sector Council, Item 34. The Board approved a motion appointing eight members of the Westside/Central Service Sector Council. A ninth position will be filled by the City of Los Angeles at a later date.

The eight council members are Pressley Burroughs, Helen Johnson, Peter Capone-Newton, Stephanie Negriff, Joyce Perkins, Carol Gross, Brad Robinson and Ann Semonco.

New Rail Traction Substations, Item 23. The Board approved a motion to buy four more traction power substations for the Metro Gold Line, as well as two property sites, for a total project cost of $8.7 million.

With the extra substations, the Metro Gold Line could operate a mix of two- and three-car trains at 10-minute headways. The new substations also would provide redundancy in the event substations were taken off line due to power failures or other causes.

Remanufacture of Rail Grinder, Item 17. The Board approved a motion authorizing an expenditure of $1.3 million to remanufacture MTA's rail grinder machine. The machine, which has been used to "re-profile" rails on all four Metro Rail lines, is now past its remanufacture date.

Because MTA's rail grinder is currently out of service, an outside firm has been contracted for a rail-grinding project, starting Wednesday, on a five-mile section of the Metro Gold Line.

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