

Wednesday, September 1, 2004 6:30 PM

MINUTES

San Fernando Valley Service Sector
Governance Council

Regular Meeting

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

Called to Order at 6:35 p.m.

Council Members present:

Coby King, Chair
Richard Arvizu
Joan H. Leonard
Jesus Ochoa
Brad Rosenheim
Kymberleigh Richards

Officers:

David Armijo, General Manager
Christina Lumba-Gamboa, Council
Secretary

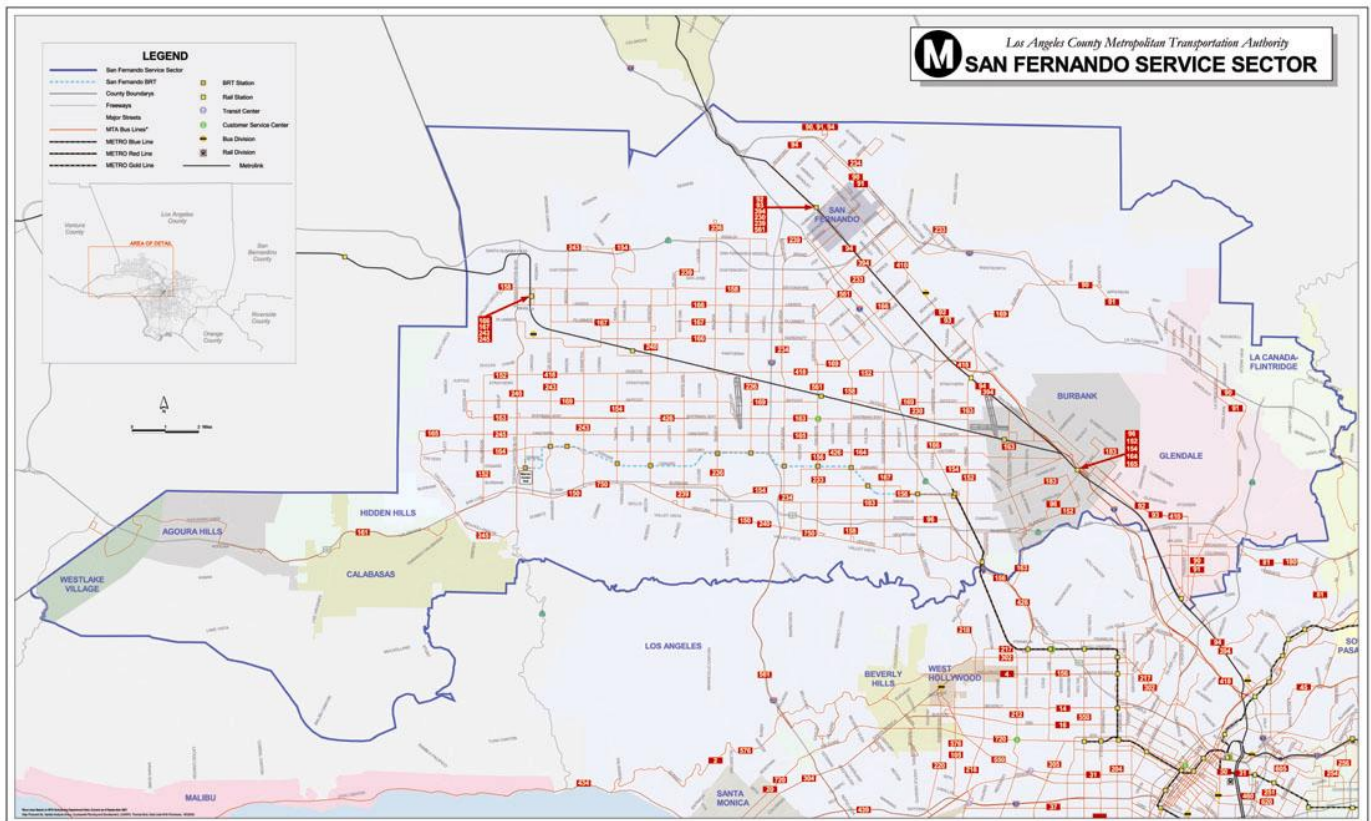


Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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METRO SAN FERNANDO VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

1) Area of responsibility:



- 2) The Governance Council is exclusively responsible for planning routes and schedules for Tier 2 and 3 bus lines within the San Fernando Service Sector. Tier 2 and 3 bus lines in the San Fernando Valley are:

Lines: 92, 96C, 154, 158, 161, 167C, 168, 169, 230/239, 183/234, 236/237, 243, 245, 418 and 426. (C = Contract Service)

Tier 1 bus lines are not under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Governance Council but jurisdiction may be exercised with the concurrence of other sectors or Corporate. Tier 1 bus lines in the San Fernando Valley are:

Lines: 90/91, 94/394, 150/240, 152,156, 163, 164/165, 166, 233, 750, and 761.

- 3) The Governance Council is responsible for studying and planning service to improve efficiency within Metro San Fernando Valley, making recommendations to the MTA board regarding service issues, working with transit planners and local authorities and transit operators to ensure coordination of service and holding public hearings to gain input on proposed changes.
- 4) The Governance Council is **NOT** responsible for fare and pass structures, new project construction, or Metro Rail.

2. APPROVED **Minutes** of Regular Governance Council Meeting held August 4, 2004 AS CORRECTED.

Item 4 paragraph 5 - Line 167 to be changed to Line 96 and Tier 2
Item 7 paragraph 4 - “in case of emergency” to be changed to “to report suspicious activity”.

3. RECEIVED public comment.

4. RECEIVED Chair’s Remarks

Mr. King announced that he was happy to be back after an extended illness.

5. RECEIVED & FILED **Governance Council Mission Statement Draft**, by Chairman Coby King, as proposed per Governance Council Retreat May 21, 2004.

ADOPTED Service Sector Mission Statement:

To continually improve the transportation system in the San Fernando Valley for the residents, workers, and visitors by working with MTA staff, the MTA Board and other stakeholders to (1) monitor and improve the bus system in the Valley, and (2) develop and implement comprehensive, efficient, effective and high quality services that meet the needs of our current customers and attract new customers to the system.

6. RECEIVED & FILED **Report of General Manager** and received oral update on **Orange Line Issues** by David Armijo, General Manager, San Fernando Valley Service Sector

Mr. Armijo reported that the Sector has performed well through the first 6 weeks of the fiscal year. The Service Sector met key performance indicators. He said that Kathy Powell-Drayton, Administration and Financial Services Manager for San Fernando Service Sector, is on vacation and will clarify the figure in the budget showing a sum of under \$10 million. Mr. Armijo announced that Ms. Carolyn Flowers, MTA Executive Officer, Operations will give a budget update at the October Governance Council meeting.



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Mr. King requested a report on the revenues of the service sector.

Mr. Armijo continued to say that the agency is showing a solid year of growth in the face of two major events that occurred in the last year, the strike and a fare change. Typically he says, when there is a fare change, the agency sees a drop off that's quite significant.

Mr. Armijo reported an Operators' Assignment Ratio of 1.168, which is very good. Mr. King asked Mr. Armijo to explain what Operators Assignment Ratio means. He said that the Sector's targeted Operator's Ratio of 1.18 is actually budgeted with an additional 18% of straight cost. The total budget takes everything into account like operator's sick leave, annual leave and absenteeism. It is the overall budget that the Service Sector has to operate the service. The Division schedules additional operators on call, so the sector works within the realm of the budget numbers. The operators take their vacation time, and annual leave throughout the year. If the sector does not have enough operators for whatever reason, the operators are on workers comp or on sick leave, the sector does a voluntary call back and pays the operators time and a half. So, if the sector can keep its Operators' Assignment Ratio below 1.18, that's a good thing because it can hold its cost down. But on the other side of working below the budget, it can also cut itself short and have trouble with pullouts, missed trips and service interruptions. The sector is trying to be cost effective, but also be efficient and effective with the quality of service.

Mr. Armijo said that the Worker's Compensation reserves are higher than expected. The actual Worker's Comp claims are well below the target of 4.63. He explained that what might be causing the low numbers is that staff is working aggressively to close out old claims. The Miles between Mechanical Failures of 7,792 is the Sector's monthly target. Passenger Boardings are running very well at 4.8 and above the monthly target. The On Time Performance is very good at 71%.

Mr. Armijo announced that Eric Rapp is on vacation and there are community meetings scheduled on the service changes. He said that he anticipates some service changes next June or later. Some of the service changes are also connected with Metro Connections. He said that Nancy Michali will give an update on Metro Connections at the next Governance Council meeting.

Mr. Armijo gave an update on the Orange Line and talked about the major issues. He said the impact of the delay in construction is still unknown. The agency is going forward with service initiatives with regards to the Orange Line. He reported that construction is back in full force. The environmental report should be done in 90 days and will include the analysis of Metro Rapid as an option. He said that even with the information and updated EIR, the MTA Board of Directors has the option to choose what direction it wants to go. He said that there is no requirement within the Federal guidelines that the MTA change its decision.

Mr. King asked if the delay in construction will impact the opening schedule. Mr. Armijo responded that the schedule might be delayed to December next year.

Mr. Rosenheim commented that EIR requirements are just a disclosure and have no bearing on policy decisions. He said that the decision of the Board on the Orange Line will not change as a great deal of money has already been invested. He said that the COST lawsuit has just set us back a lot of time, a lot of money and gotten us exactly no where. He reminded the Council of the motion that is in place “that there will be no implementation of services of the Orange Line until it is 99% ready”. He said the motion includes the premature adjusting of services and feeders into the Line with the service changes in June, if the Orange Line is not expected to open or go into effect until January the following year.

Mr. King said that the governance council will have a separate item regarding the Orange Line on the next agenda so it can express Mr. Rosenheim’s comment and make it a Service Sector Resolution.

7. RECEIVED oral update on **Anti-Graffiti efforts and Sector Policing Issues** by Lt. Patrick Jordan of L.A. County Sheriffs Department - Transit Services Bureau - San Fernando Valley

Lt. Jordan gave an update on the anti-graffiti efforts in San Fernando. He said that over the past year the division has arrested 107 taggers who are responsible for 900 cases of tagging for a dollar damage value to the MTA of \$744,000. He explained the procedure that the division used to look at the cases collectively to gather enough information. With this strategy the division was able to identify the suspects.

8. RECEIVED oral update on **Service Issues** by Mike Brewer, Service Development Manager, San Fernando Valley Service Sector

Mike Brewer updated the Council on the Consent Decree service additions for the December service changes. On Line 94 the sector added 4 trips to reduce passenger loads. Line 152 added 21 midday trips to improve headways from 30 to 25 minutes and 7 trips on Saturday. Line 156 added 2 peak period trips; Line 163 added 66 trips and 5 trips on Saturday. He summarized that total added trips per weekday by December would be 147 trips, 30 trips for Saturday and 34 trips on Sunday. The total annual hours would be 41,695. The total target service hours of the Consent Decree are 43,458.

9. Chair & Council Member's Final Comments

Mr. Rosenheim commented on the public comment with regards to creating a Lost and Found area in the valley.

Mr. King reported having a meeting with Director Yaroslavsky on August 16th, while on a business trip in Boston. He said that Director Yaroslavsky appreciates the support of the Council on the Orange Line. He also said that the Council and Director Yaroslavsky both agree not to open the Orange Line until everything is in place.

Director Arvizu commended the Sheriff's Department on the excellent work that they are doing.

Ms. Leonard wants to know why the Service Sector still doesn't have a website.

Next agenda items:

- Revenue report from Carolyn Flowers, Deputy Executive Officer, Operations
- Update on Metro Connections
- Update on the Orange Line
- June Service Changes
- Director Molina's directive re: addressing customer's calls.

Christina Lumba-Gamboa
Council Secretary