

Thursday, November 10, 2004 – 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority

**GATEWAY CITIES
SERVICE SECTOR
GOVERNANCE COUNCIL**

REGULAR MEETING

The Gas Company
9240 Firestone Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241

Called to Order at 2:05 p.m.

Council Members present:

Bonnie Lowenthal (Chair)
Larry R. Nelson (Vice Chair)
Samuel Peña (Past Chair)
JoAnn Eros-Delgado
Jacqueline Rynerson
Wally Shidler

Officers:

Alex Clifford, General Manager
David Hershenson, Community Relations Manager
Sharon Sterling, Council Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Called
3. Self Introductions
4. Public Comment

Mr. Mark Strickert asked where would Line 265 end. Mr. Nguyen replied at Whittier and Rosemead.

5. APPROVED Minutes of October 14, 2004 Council Meeting.
6. APPROVED Minutes of October 21, 2004 Governance Council Metro Connections Tour and Workshop.
7. RECEIVED oral report of General Manager.

Mr. Clifford provided a copy of the September 2004 Gateway Operations Report to the Councilmembers.

Mr. Clifford announced that Line 576 would be cancelled effective December 19, 2004. Notice of cancellation was provided to customers riding the line, elected officials and others impacted beginning in mid July.

Mr. Clifford announced that staff is simplifying the tariff for Line 460 and eliminating the \$1.00 inter-county zone charge, effective November 15, 2004.

Mr. Clifford reported that strategies are in place for the December shake-up to reduce the number of accidents. Overtime would be taken off the low accident lines and moved to the high accident lines to attract the more seasoned operators. This would be monitored for two months with adjustments made where necessary.

Mr. Clifford stated complaints are high priority; operators are monitored with undercover rides. Regular staff line rides for November and December will be cancelled.

Mr. Shidler asked staff to include line numbers in the Complaint report. Mr. Clifford stated that Regina Chan would work with Customer Relations to include the information in the next report.

Mr. Clifford announced that a Public Hearing might be held in February 2005.

8. RECEIVED presentation on Bus Bulb by Mike Sieckert, Transportation Planning Manager.

Mr. Sieckert stated that a bus bulb, sometimes referred to as a curb extension, a nub, or a bus bulge, is generally defined as a section of sidewalk that extends from the curb of a parking lane to the edge of a through traffic lane. This extension creates additional space for thru-pedestrian traffic using the sidewalk and for passengers to wait for a bus. The additional space also allows room for amenities such as bus shelters, benches and landscaping.

A bus bulb is different from a conventional bus stop in that passenger boarding and alighting activity takes place in the street area now used for parking. This concept is unlike a regular bus stop where passengers board and alight the bus from the curb next to the parking lane. Bus bulbs are normally constructed in well-developed, mixed-use downtown or urban settings, and can be located nearside, farside, or mid-block.

Staff has surveyed the cities in the Gateway Cities Sector to determine whether any have implemented or plan to implement bus bulbs within their jurisdictions. Most said they had no previous experience with them; others were unaware of the concept. Only Huntington Park, South Gate and Long Beach were found to have active programs.

Mr. Clifford stated that Gateway Cities will partner with the COG to present this information to other cities.

9. RECEIVED presentation on Long Beach Municipal Transportation Operations by Dan Rosenfeld, Long Beach Transit Local Government and Community Representative.

Mr. Peña inquired regarding the stops that connect with MTA. Mr. Rosenfeld stated there are connections in downtown Long Beach, Artesia Station, Lakewood Mall, Norwalk, Carson, Compton, Paramount, Downey, Bellflower, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, Los Alamitos and Seal Beach. Mr. Peña suggested notation of this information on the schedules. Mr. Rosenfeld will work with the Sector to make customer travel seamless.

Mr. Shidler suggested all munis and MTA appear on one map. Ms. Lowenthal agreed and suggested including Orange County Transit connections in Long Beach.

Mr. Shidler asked why the line numbers are not on the bus stops. Mr. Rosenfeld stated some stops have information on the pole.

Ms. Rynerson complimented the Long Beach Transit information staff.

Mr. Nelson asked if the five Long Beach police officers are dedicated or on call. Mr. Rosenfeld replied that all five are dedicated to transit.

Ms Lowenthal asked if Long Beach Transit picks up the tab. Mr. Rosenthal will report back with the information.

Ms. Rynerson asked if Long Beach Transit operates the tourist service. Mr. Rosenfeld responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Lowenthal expressed concern with the lengthy process for disabled customers to obtain the LACTOA cards.

Mr. Shidler stated the MTA and munis should establish an expeditious system to process the cards.

Mr. Peña stated that not many of the transit agencies are issuing the LACTOA cards the same day.

Jaime Becerra stated that Norwalk Transit could process the LACTOA cards within 20 minutes. They are a small agency and the demand is low.

Ms. Eros-Delgado stated elderly and disabled customers need to be provided with the County Pass Buy Down information. Discount pass information is available through the County Department of Public Works. Mr. Clifford will invite Customer & Vendor Services Manager Gail Harvey to make a presentation to the Council.

Mr. Rosenfeld invited the Council to visit Long Beach Transit.

10. ADOPTED NELSON MOTION for Gateway Cities Governance Mission Statement language.

Metro Gateway Cities Governance Council’s mission is to provide safe, efficient, reliable and high quality bus service that is responsive to the needs of our customers.

11. Councilmembers’ Remarks

Mr. Peña thanked Mr. Rosenfeld for the presentation, and announced his appointment to the Sanitation District Board.

12. Chair’s Remarks

Ms. Lowenthal thanked Mr. Clifford and staff for the Metro Connections Workshop, and acknowledged Connie Szielb from Supervisor Don Knabe’s office.

13. Consideration of items not posted on the Agenda – None

DECEMBER Council Meeting has been canceled.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 13, 2004

The Gas Company
9240 Firestone Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241

Adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Sterling". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Prepared by: Sharon Sterling
Council Secretary