



**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MARCH 17, 2005**

SUBJECT: BUS PROCUREMENT STATUS UPDATE

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file status report on Metro's bus procurements.

ISSUE

The Board of Directors requested periodic updates on the status of active bus procurements.

DISCUSSION

Metro's bus replacement program continues to bring innovative, advanced transit vehicles to Los Angeles. Over the last three years, Metro has shifted away from standard vehicle procurements (40-foot, 40-passenger low-floor transit buses) to advanced designs and higher capacity vehicles that are better suited to existing and future needs. At this time, all bus contracts are on schedule and within approved budgets.

Since adopting the Accelerated Bus Procurement Plan in 1998, Metro has contracted for a total of 2,118 new vehicles, and has placed into service 1,869 of these vehicles. The current active bus fleet has a total of 2,658 buses in active service, 2,485 buses operated directly by Metro, and another 173 vehicles operated under contract.

BUS PROCUREMENTS STATUS:

- **40 Foot CNG Buses** – In July 2004, Metro contracted with NABI to provide an additional 75 "Option" buses under contract OP33200634. These buses will be virtually identical to 350 NABI buses delivered in 2002 (buses 7600-7949), with several improvements and upgrades: improved operator seat; remote adjustable outside mirrors with imbedded LED turn indicators; upgraded electrical systems. This series of NABI bus has been among the most reliable in Metro's fleet.

- **45-foot Compo-Buses** –This order for one hundred 45-foot composite buses from NABI is expected to be complete by September 30, 2005. This vehicle features advanced streamlined styling, improved passenger areas, and lightweight composite construction with 15% greater passenger seating accommodations. This is the first large transit vehicle utilizing all-wheel disc brakes. Preliminary operating performance of the 45’ buses has been better than the fleet average. These buses are currently operated from the Arthur Winston Division and Division 10 (downtown). After this coming June, these buses will mainly be deployed on the 720 Wilshire Metro Rapid Bus line.
- **Articulated CNG Buses** - Two hundred 60-foot low-floor CNG articulated buses are currently on order from NABI. The “Pilot” articulated vehicle has been completed and is undergoing testing by the manufacturer in Anniston, Alabama. The articulated vehicle offers several “Firsts” for the transit industry: first CNG-powered 60-foot articulated low-floor bus designed for use in the United States; first heavy-duty CNG transit engine designed; ultra-low noise with 50% quieter ride than current industry standards require. The first 30 Articulated Buses (that will be used on the Orange Line) will use interior bike racks similar to Metrolink; at this time, staff is still evaluating whether to include interior or front-mounted bike racks on the remaining buses in this order.

NEXT STEPS

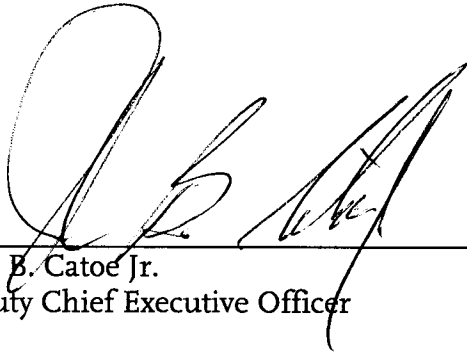
Staff expects to return to the Board within the next 90 days to consider options for purchasing remaining buses required to comply with the January 2004 “Final Ruling” of the Special Master.

Staff will continue the present course of procuring advanced design, high capacity vehicles, and evaluate future vehicles needs that reduce emissions, noise, and operating costs while providing increased comfort, safety, and reliability for both passengers and operating personnel.

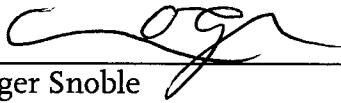
ATTACHMENT

A. Bus Procurement Status Matrix

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BUS PROCUREMENT SUMMARY MATRIX

As of March 1, 2005		294 Bus* Neoplan Order (carried over from FY97)	250 Neoplan (Base)	New Flyer "Las Vegas" Buses	Neoplan (50 Bus Option)	Neoplan (100 Bus Option)
Total Buses in Contract		37	250	20	50	100
Technology		High Floor CNG	High Floor CNG	Low Floor Diesel	High Floor CNG	High Floor CNG
Final Bus Delivery Date (per Contract)		Sep-97	Sep-98	Sep-98	Dec-98	Jul-99
Proposed Delivery Date (Current Schedule)		Sep-97	Sep-98	Sep-98	Dec-98	Jul-99
Summary - Deliveries/Acceptances.						
Total Scheduled Deliveries (Thru Mar 1, '05)		37	250	20	50	100
Actual Buses Accepted (Thru Mar 1, '05)		37	250	20	50	100
New Buses in Revenue Service		37	250	20	50	100
Buses Remaining in Contract(s)		0	0	0	0	0
Percentage Completion		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Status of Accelerated Bus Procurement Plan						
New Buses in Revenue Service	1869	Neoplan	437	New Flyer	NABI 215 Bus Buy	NABI 370 Bus Buy***
Buses remaining in contracts	124			466	430	370
Option Buses Available (NABI)	900					75
Total Buses Available (FY98-FY10)	2893		437	466	430	425
						870

* 37 Buses from the original 294 Bus Neoplan Contract were delivered & accepted in FY98. These buses were included as part of the Accelerated Bus Procurement Plan.

There were a total of 257 Neoplan CNG buses delivered to the MTA in FY96 and FY97, so new bus deliveries from FY96 - FY04 total 2649 (257+2095+297).

As of March 1, 2005		NABI - 370 Contract***	Additional Buses bought by MTA Contractors**	"I"-High Capacity Bus Buy	Articulated CNG Buses	40' NABI Buses for Consent Decree	Remaining Buses for Consent Decree****	Total New Buses (Through FY04)
Total Buses in Contract	370	115	100	200	75	0	2193	
Technology	Low Floor CNG	Diesel	45' Low Floor CNG	Low Floor CNG	Low Floor CNG	TBD		
Final Bus Delivery Date (per Contract)	Jun-02	Jun-00	Jun-03	Jun-06	Jun-05	Dec-07		
Proposed Delivery Date (Current Schedule)	Jun-02	Jun-00	Jun-05	Jun-06	Jun-05	Dec-07		
<u>Summary - Deliveries/Acceptances</u>								
Total Scheduled Deliveries (Thru Mar 1, '05)	370	115	66	0	0	0	1884	
Actual Buses Accepted (Thru Mar 1, '05)	370	115	59	0	0	0	1877	
New Buses in Revenue Service	370	115	51	0	0	0	1869	
Buses Remaining in Contract(s)	0	0	34	200	75	TBD	309	
Percentage Completion	100.00%	100.00%	51.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	85.23%	

** MTA Contracted Service Providers have entered into lease agreements to acquire a total of 115 buses for MTA contract service.

*** Roughly 100 of Metro's unused options for NABI 40' CNG buses under contract OP3200634 have been assigned to other regional transit properties, including Foothill and Victor Valley Transit. In July 2004, Metro exercised an Option for 75 additional NABI 40' buses.

**** Metro needs to acquire/put into service 52 forty-foot buses (or their equivalent) to comply with the January 2004 "Final Ruling" of the Special Master.

