

Friday, July 8, 2005 – 9:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

SOUTH BAY SERVICE SECTOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Carson Community Center
801 E. Carson Street, Room 209
Carson, CA 90745

Called to Order at 9:40 a.m.

Council Members present:

Terisa Price, Chair
John McTaggart, Vice Chair
John Addleman
Margaret Hudson
Lou Mitchell
Curren Price
Howard Sachar

Officers:

Dana M. Coffey, General Manager
Richard Morallo, Community Relations
Manager
Christina Lumba-Gamboa, Recording
Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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1. **Safety 1st Contact** by Metro South Bay Volunteer.

Lynda Reed, Executive Secretary to General Manager Ms. Dana Coffey, reminded everyone that when crossing the street, one must look both ways.

2. APPROVED **Minutes** of June 10, 2005 Council Meeting as corrected.

- Item 9, add “Mr. NormanHobson asked staff for a response to his previous public comment. Chair Price directed staff to establish a procedure for responding to comments and questions asked during Council meetings.
- Item 9, Chair Price directed staff to agendized role of Governance Council in the budget process.

Ms. Price requested that before adjournment of the council meeting, items to be agendized for the next meeting be read back.

3. PRESENTATION of the **Metro South Bay FY06 Budget** by Myrine White, Administrative Finance Manager.

Ms. White presented the adopted MTA FY06 budget. She summarized that the total agency budget is \$2.86 billion. The budget includes a labor reduction of 133 FTE’s, salary and fringe benefit increases for union and non-contract employees, increased fuel cost, 77,000 additional revenue service hours, 4 new Metro Rapid bus lines (Santa Monica, Reseda, Western and Long Beach), increased homeland security and fares at the current levels.

The South Bay Service Sector has an estimated FY06 budget of \$125.5 million, which will not be finalized until the June service changes are complete. The sector budget includes a decrease of 14.75 FTEs, 5% decrease in worker’s comp compared to FY05, transfer of PLPD from Risk Management Dept. and an additional Rapid line that will start operating out of Arthur Winston Division in December.

Once the budget is adopted, the budget books will be distributed to the Council.

Council member Sachar asked if the funds for the Consent Decree will be reallocated if not expended.

Ms. Coffey responded that Rod Goldman, Deputy Executive Officer, Operations is working on the agency's compliance to the Special Master's orders. She stated that ridership and revenue has increased. She will arrange for Treasurer Terry Matsumoto, or his staff to report back on the ridership revenues.

Council member Adelman expressed his frustration that the Governance Council was not consulted on the budget development. He stated that Council members should be given a month to review the budget before it is adopted. He inquired about the role of the council members with regard to the budget. He asked where the funds for marketing the buses are coming from.

Ms. Hudson inquired about contract labor. She asked which positions are being reduced or laid off.

Ms. White responded that some operators are transferred to other Service Sectors based on assignments.

Mr. McTaggart asked staff for a written report with an "in and out column" of the budget funds so he could understand the variance and reallocation of the funds.

Chair Price requested the report to reflect all line items for the Governance Council to review before adoption of the budget.

Ms. Price noted that there is a reduction in worker's comp and asked if that was a reduction in real numbers or just the calculation.

Ms. White responded that the reduction is in the way it is calculated.

Ms. Price requested staff to report on how they changed the worker's comp calculation and the allocation of charges.

4. PRESENTATION of **safety award certificates** to students from Williams Elementary School by Dana M. Coffey, General Manager, Metro South Bay.

Rich Morallo explained the process for the Safety Award certificate. He said the Service Sector promotes and conducts safety classes to different schools.

Queen Ewudo and Miriam Delgado from Williams Elementary School in Hawthorne participated in the Safety contest conducted by Metro South Bay.

Ms. Coffey presented them certificates of appreciation and prizes for their winning entries in the Metro Safety contest.

5. RECEIVED update on new **Line 450 Express** by Madeline Van Leuvan, Service Development Manager.

Ms. Van Leuvan reported that on June 29th the Service Sector held an Open House at the Artesia Transit Center. The purpose of the Open House was to make the public aware of the facility with 900 free parking spaces available for bus service, park and ride sharing and to promote the new line 450 Express.

As part of the festivities, the Service Sector obtained a Metro helium balloon, which floated high above the Artesia Transit Center on the day of the event.

Ms. Van Leuvan summarized the inception of Line 450 Express. She stated that Schedule Supervisor Thang Tran presented the concept in mid-April. The normal deadline to complete schedules was long past at that time, hence, staff developed route plans and schedule during an intense two-week period. Fleet management identified and painted three CNG low-floor Blue buses. Stops and Zones staff installed stop information with little lead time. Ms. Van Leuvan commended Division 18 maintenance crew for getting the Blue Buses in sparkling condition and operators trained and ready to roll on the first day of service. Marketing and Communications Department developed the "Take One" brochures, and advertised in newspapers and on radio. Line 450 Express turned from a plan to reality to a success in just two months.

To date, over 900 riders have boarded Line 450X. There are requests for earlier and later service, frequent service, and similar services to other major employment centers.

Ms. Van Luevan said that at the Artesia Transit Center Open House passengers had all the nicest comments about the line.

Mr. Sachar commended staff on their very well implemented promotional effort.

6. RECEIVED update on **Proposed Service Changes** for the Metro South Bay by Scott Greene, Transportation Planning Manager.

Mr. Greene presented a power point map on the proposed service changes and announced that the public hearing is scheduled on August 10, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Arthur Winston Division. He stated that there are improvements proposed by the other Service Sectors that affect the South Bay bus service such as Lines 110, 127, and the 711.

He presented the proposed service changes as follows:

<u>LINE</u>	<u>Line Name</u>	<u>PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE</u>
110	Gage Av. – Centinela Av. – Fox Hills Mall	Evaluate weekday extension to Playa Vista, consider extending weekend service (also see eastern extension in Gateway Cities).
439	LA – LAX – Redondo Beach Express	Cancel service south of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Transit Center due to low ridership.
442	LA – Manchester Ave. – Hawthorne Blvd. Express	Discontinue route due to low ridership.
444	LA – W. Torrance – Rolling Hills – Rancho Palos Verdes Express	Consider more short-line operations between Palos Verdes and the Artesia Transit Center; implement limited stop service on Hawthorne Bl. between Pacific Coast Highway and Artesia Bl.
446-447	LA – Carson – Wilmington – San Pedro Express	Consider more short-line operations between San Pedro and the Artesia Transit Center.

450X	Artesia Transit Center – 7 th /Metro Express	Evaluate performance, approve permanent operation, and set appropriate service levels.
710	Crenshaw Rapid	Implement new Saturday service
711	Florence Rapid	Reaffirm extension to LAX Transit Center via Century Bl. (also see eastern extension in Gateway Cities).
754	Vermont Rapid	Assign 60' buses and reschedule service with wider headways to reflect larger-capacity buses.
757	Western Rapid	Implement new Rapid service on Western Av. with 60' larger-capacity buses.

7. RECEIVED Chair's Remarks.

Chair Price extended her congratulations to Mayor Villaraigosa. She reported that the Service Sectors will be making their presentation to the MTA Board next month. She indicated that other elements of the Service Sector Bylaws should be implemented including being a part of the budget process.

8. RECEIVED report of General Manager.

Ms. Coffey reported that newly appointed Director Bernard Parks was on site and toured Division 5.

Ms. Michali presented an update on the community outreach results of Metro Connections. She reported that due to Consent Decree compliance, the roll out of Metro Connections is moved to December '06. Ms. Michali urged the Council Members to email their responses to the questionnaire she sent them. She announced that a Metro Connections Workshop will be scheduled during the second week of August.

9. Public Comment

- Council member Mitchell expressed his appreciation to Rich Morallo for his successful implementation on the marketing of Line 450X.
- Council member Sachar requested an M3 update.
- Council member McTaggart requested staff to present a budget chart indicating the movement of funds.
- Council member Addelman requested an update of Lines 225 and 226
- Chair Price requested MTA email accounts for the council members to be set up and an update on demonstration projects from other sectors
- Council member Hudson asked staff to report back on the safety of the Artesia Transit Center.
- Mr. Norman Hobson asked what the feedback has been from the service changes/improvements.
- Mr. Ken Ruben expressed his concern regarding transit security
- Ms. Devon Deming expressed her concern on the availability of Lines 220 and 439 at LAX. She asked if the Service Sector could add midday service. She indicated that the Norwalk Station has limited parking.
- Mr. David Snowden commented that the new bus stop signs for Beach Cities Transit are the prettiest he has seen.

Next Meeting:

Friday, August 12, 2005 – 9:30 a.m.

Community Center

801 E. Carson St.

Carson, CA 90745

Prepared by: Christina Lumba-Gamboa
Recording Secretary