

Thursday, June 14, 2007 – 2:00 p.m.

CORRECTED MINUTES

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

GATEWAY CITIES SERVICE SECTOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The Gas Company
9240 Firestone Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241

Call to Order at 2:01 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Wally Shidler (Chair)
Jo Ann Eros-Delgado (Vice Chair)
George Bass
Cheri Kelley
Larry R. Nelson
Owen Newcomer
Samuel Peña
Vincent Torres

Officers:

Alex Clifford, General Manager
Raynard Price, Council Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call – Council Secretary Raynard Price called the roll. All Council Members were present.
3. Self Introductions
4. Public Comment: Rafi Katzir presented suggestions to line changes (on file). The Chair noted that five of the changes lines in other sectors.
5. APPROVED **Minutes** of May 10, 2007 Council Meeting.
6. Election of Chair and Vice Chair. Council Member Jo Ann Eros-Delgado was unanimously elected as Chair. Council Member Cheri Kelly Kelley was unanimously elected as Vice Chair.
7. **Received** oral reports, and possible action on oral reports from General Manager. General Manger presented considered on the following report:
 - a. **Budget and Performance Update.** Mr. Clifford said the unfavorable budget variance in Labor accounts (\$3.5M) includes Contract Wages (\$1.2M) and Fringe Benefits accounts (\$2.8M) offset by a favorable variance of \$564K in Non-Work Time accounts. He mentioned that Metro will be hiring 22 more mechanics with four being allocated to Gateway. An OMB audit resulted in a \$12M charge to Metro overall with \$3M shared by Gateway. He provided a breakdown of unfavorable budget variance in Contract Wages (\$1.2M). In Non Labor the favorable budget variance of \$1.8M is mostly in fuel. In Allocated accounts the favorable budget variance of \$3.6M includes Public Liability/Property Damage Chargeback of \$2.9M and Workers Compensation of \$901K. Data was not available for the month of April for Complaints Per 100,000 boardings and for In Service On Time Performance. Mr. Clifford said the system is being upgraded. Chair Shidler questioned the On-Time Performance. Mr. Clifford responded that traffic is the biggest issue in on time performance. New workers Compensation claims Per 200,000 exposure hours for March was at 11.01 which is lower than other sectors. He stated this new comparison was made at the request of Council Members in addition to other Key Performance indicators. Bus traffic accidents is at 4.01 per 100,000 miles. Council Member Bass asked if there is a relationship between good weather and accidents. He questioned if there was a method for recording accidents and the weather to make a comparison because there seems to be a relationship between good weather and a noted decrease in accidents. Mr. Clifford agreed to look into this possibility. Mr. Clifford introduced a slide showing 13 months of history regarding customer complaints. He spoke of operators who received commendations from the public: Oscar Torres, Audran Robinson, Adriennea Whaley, Jose Castro, Frank G. White, Tracie Anderson, Latrice Tyler and an operator identified as #7412 on Line 60. Operator #7412 received an exceptionally lengthy written commendation.
 - b. **Update on Antonovich Motion.** Mr. Clifford presented an update on Director Antonovich's Motion to assess the effectiveness of service sector operations and adherence to the original concept. Mr. Clifford advised the Council that page two of the report included the importance of and need for community relations as commented by the Council. He advised council members that this item is on the agenda of the next Metro Committee Board meetings.

- c. **Update on Metro Connections Meetings.** There was no meeting to report.
 - d. **Update on Public Comment Re: Line 266 dysfunctional fare box.** The contractor is still using the old fare boxes but due to install new fare boxes on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of June.
 - e. **Approved Fare Restructure Information.** The Council was provided with a handout of the new fare structure. The Chair indicated he attended the fare hearing along with Council Member Bass. He expressed his concern to Mr. Clifford regarding the senior monthly pass. He stated if the pass is stamped seniors are not charged for zone changes but if they pay cash they are charged. He said the fare is not clear. Dave Hershenson responded that according to a memo from Metro CFO Terry Matsumoto, the old policy will apply for seniors, those on Medicare and the disabled. They will not be charged zone changes. The Chair suggested this policy be made clear to bus drivers. The chair also asked if senior citizens will have to pay if the bus is late during off peak hours. Dave Hershenson agreed to return next month with an answer along with the Chair's concern about undocumented workers who do not have the proper identification to pay the appropriate fare.
 - f. **Update on Artesia Blue Line Station.** Mike Sieckert said Facilities Maintenance and the Bus Engineering group have conducted 2-3 site surveys and noted that the station is generally full with very little parking available. He said staff is looking at a plan to expand the parking capacity. Council member Newcomer with the support of Council member Kelly expressed a concern that restriping the parking lot for compact parking does not solve the parking problem. Mr. Sieckert agreed to return with a plan. The Chair inquired about safety at the station. Mr. Sieckert responded that there is now a security guard at the station.
 - g. **Update on Line 62 Shortline Turnaround.** Mr. Sieckert said the City of Norwalk requested Metro to reroute Line 62 because of a problem at ~~Lyndale~~ **Lindale** which is not large enough for buses to properly turn. Mr. Sieckert indicated Metro is waiting for a formal letter from the City of Norwalk to ensure the support of a new route.
 - h. **Update on Line 760.** The County is behind with signal priority modifications for the area which continues to delay the 760. There is a decision to operate Line 760, not as a Rapid Line but faster than a regular line. The line will use existing buses as opposed to new.
8. **Received** oral report on GWC Sector FY '08 Work Plan – General Manager Alex Clifford presented an overview of the FY08 Work Plan (on file).
9. **Received** oral report on Line 270 Status Report w/Recommendations. This item was combined with Item 10 in a presentation by Mike Sieckert.
10. **Received** oral report, and considered possible action on Scheduling of Public Hearing for Proposed December '07 Service Changes and Approval of Public Hearing Notice. Mike Sieckert pointed out that other Sector Councils are participating in the upcoming public

hearing process and have already approved their public hearing dates. To ensure coordination between the sectors and safeguarding of the process staff, recommended: 1) approving Sunday, July 1, 2007 as the date to publish public hearing notice in the Los Angeles Times; 2) Scheduling Thursday, August 9, at 5:00 p.m. to hold public hearing at the Gas Company in the City of Downey following the regular Council Meeting; 3) Staff is to provide Council with additional dates and locations in August. Mr. Sieckert reviewed the service changes in a power point presentation (on file). He stated that the service changes are directly controlled by the Gateway Cities Sector. He said he will return next month with an update of proposed changes by other sectors that could have an impact on Gateway services. Mr. Sieckert identified route modifications (five local lines and one Express line) and new service of 3 local lines. Mr. Sieckert said the overall program goals are to: Improve customer service by reducing travel times, increase travel speeds and improve access to major passenger destinations and; Improve operational efficiency by ensuring a balanced FY 2008 budget, reallocate existing resources from poorly performing lines and line segments and to eliminate unnecessary service duplication. Mr. Sieckert indicated that Line 270 (Agenda Item 9) restructuring has been considered for a couple of years with discussions with Norwalk Transit. The final agreement was reached as to what will be the best route for Line 270. There is duplication on the line with Norwalk Transit. He said, Metro negotiated a new routing for the line to eliminate duplication. The change will provide new service along Bloomfield and Santa Fe Springs Avenue into Norwalk Civic Center with service along Firestone Blvd. into the Green Line. Mr. Sieckert presented the public hearings of other sector councils with the following dates: Westside on August 8 at 5 P.M., and San Gabriel Valley on August 13 at 6 P.M. He provided optional dates and times for the Gateway Sector meetings. Chair Shidler expressed concern that public notices are published in the classified section of the paper. Director Delgado suggested staff look in the Norwalk Sport Center to see if there is flexibility for a weekday evening meeting around 7:00 p.m. as an additional hearing. APPROVED MOTION to hold the public hearing on August 9, at 5 P.M. and to have The Chair, Co-Chair and Past Chair act as a subcommittee to determine an alternative date. The MOTION was amended to direct staff to publish the notice in a more visual part of the Los Angeles Times.

11. **Received** oral report on Representative Line Ride Report – Owen Newcomer. Council Member Newcomer said the ride was good. He took a ride from the Witward Center down to the Green line on L121 and returned. In both cases the buses were clean, on time, and drivers were polite. He said approximately 20 people rode the bus each way. He said it was his intent to ride from Green Line to Witward and back but was unable to find a parking space at the Green Line which caused him to drive to Witward to board the bus. Next month Council Member Cheri Kelly Kelley will participate in the ride report.
12. **Received** oral report on Notification of Upcoming Line Rides – Mr. Clifford reminded Council Member Cheri Kelly Kelley will be riding on the 460 and Council Member Larry Nelson will be riding in August on the 130. Chair Shidler stated that Council Members are welcome to select a line to ride.
13. Chairperson's Remarks. Chair thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.
14. Council Member's Remarks

Representative Pena - Wished everyone a happy and safe 4th of July.

Representative Newcomer – Enjoy the 4th

Representative Delgado – Pleased to have been nominated and looks forward to the upcoming year and the support of all Council Members.

Representative Bass – wished everyone a happy forthcoming holiday and upcoming Father's day.

Representative Kelly Kelley – Thanked the Council for the honor serving as Vice-Chair for next year and looks forward to working with new Chair Delgado and upcoming ride on the 460.

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

16. Closed Session: Personnel Matters – G.C. 54957 Public Employee Performance Evaluation Goals for FY07 – General Manager

ADJOURNED at 4:15 p.m.



Raynard Price, Council Secretary