

Thursday, February 14, 2008 – 2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

GATEWAY CITIES SERVICE SECTOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The Gas Company
9240 Firestone Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241

Called to Order at 2:06 p.m.

Council Members:

Jo Ann Eros-Delgado (Chair)
Cheri Kelley (Vice-Chair)
George Bass
Larry R. Nelson
Owen Newcomer
Wally Shidler
Harley Rubenstein

Officers:

Alex Clifford, General Manager
Raynard Price, Council Secretary



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1. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Larry Nelson.
2. **Roll Call** – Council Secretary Raynard Price called the roll.
3. **Self Introductions** – Introductions of all those present were made.
4. **Public Comments.** There were no public comments.
5. **APPROVED** Minutes of January 10, 2008 Council Meeting.
6. **Received** oral report from General Manager Alex Clifford, who noted the Sector continues to do well in Labor which is ahead of budget. The favorable budget variance in Labor accounts of \$1.3M is mostly in Contract Wages of \$1.4M. The favorable budget variance in Non-Labor accounts of \$505K is mostly in the Fuel account of \$401K. Allocated accounts also continue to be favorable at \$4.3M which includes Worker's Compensation, Public Liability/Property Damage Chargeback and Regional Cost Chargeback. He noted that the overall \$6M favorable budget variance for the December halfway point is good.

The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the month of December are excellent. Mr. Clifford acknowledged the good work of the Gateway managers and street supervisory teams for bringing down the Bus Traffic Accidents per 100,000 Hub Miles to a December low of 2.59 with a YTD of 3.22 and YTD Target of 3.65.

In comparison with the other four sectors year-to-date through December, the following are results of GWC's performance.

- Ranks 2nd best in New Workers Comp claims system wide.
- Ranks 3rd best in Bus Traffic Accidents.
- Ranks lowest in Customer Complaints.
- Ranks best for In Service On-Time Performance.
- Ranks 4th in Mean Miles Between Mechanical Failures.

In reviewing bus accident by types Mr. Clifford advised there is a miscoding problem which should reveal that 11 accidents are actually other vehicles hitting the bus mirrors. Representative Shidler inquired about accidents with the new articulated buses received in December. Mr. Clifford is not aware of accidents to report. The newer buses have a different mirror configuration which may be the reason. Mr. Clifford noted commendations received on behalf of Operators Gregory O. Brown, Henry F. Magana, Ruben Rios, Jose Santillan and Henry Trejo.

Mr. Clifford discussed the previous month's Board meeting and the Board's decision to recognize the age of 62 for all senior discount rates, including the off-peak 25 cent senior fare that currently has a minimum age requirement of 65, effective July 1, 2008.

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- FY 09 Budget Performance Update. The process has started for the FY09 Budget. It will be a roll-over budget, which will be the same as the previous year. Negotiated wage increases will be included. The deficit of \$71M will need to be addressed. The budget “initiatives process” may allow for consideration of funding for additional system-wide street and maintenance supervisors, and possible one Assistant transportation Manager for Division 1.
 - The location for March Governance Council meeting is different because The Gas Company was unavailable. That meeting will take place in the Downey City Hall Chambers, 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, 90241
 - Adopted resolutions on Line 258 and 110. Chair Eros-Delgado read the resolutions to the Council. The resolution for Line 258 advocates for over 160 riders lacking in transit alternatives. The resolution requests the San Gabriel Valley Service Sector Council to maintain the line “as-is.” It was noted that the Gateway Cities COG (Council of Governments) will also be submitting a resolution in support of Line 258. The Line 110 resolution advocates for over 300 weekday riders lacking in transit alternatives, and requests the South Bay Service Sector Council to maintain the line “as-is.”
 - Update on Line 760 (Signal Priority). The City of Long Beach continues to work at resolving signal timing issues.
 - Line 60 Night Owl line ride. The line ride by Council Representatives will take place Friday, February 29 meeting at the Sector office at midnight (12:01 a.m.).
 - Update provided by Dave Hershenson on Council questions related to OCTA’s Access Service Policy. The OCTA’s policy is similar to Metro in offering ACCESS services to all routes operated by Orange County including services that travel into Los Angeles County.
 - Update provided by Representative Larry R. Nelson on GWC Governance Council vacancy. Representative Nelson informed the Council that the Gateway Cities COG elected Downey City Council Representative Anne Marie Bayer to fill the Gateway Cities Sector Co
 - uncil vacancy. There were two candidates that vied for this position. Representative Bayer is scheduled to attend an orientation with General Manager Clifford pending Metro Board approval.
7. **Received** oral report on Line 577 – Jason Snow, General Manager, Southland Transit Inc. In his third presentation to the Council, Mr. Snow provided a brief history of Line 577. It was started in December 2005 to provide freeway express service from El Monte to Norwalk Stations to Long Beach. It has been extended to provide service to the Transit Mall in Long Beach. There are six runs (down from seven). Southland Transit is contracted by Metro to operate the service. There has been an improvement which

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exceeded goals in Mean Miles Between Mechanical Failures – achieving 7657.8 miles with a target of 7507.15 miles. Metro Contracts staff have been helpful in providing access to parts required, significantly reducing the backlog in mechanical parts. Mechanic positions were increased from 8 to 10 in addition to a new maintenance manager. There is a trend in increased ridership. Representative Nelson inquired if there was a way to identify the number of military veterans riding Line 577. This information is not captured or reported. Representative Nelson noted that Veteran groups applaud services provided by Southland Transit Inc. (STI) as it relates to Line 577. Ridership reports are reviewed daily by Metro's Contract Services staff and STI. There is an average of 3.6 customer complaints per month which Mr. Snow acknowledges as being high. There was an increase in complaints during July and August (2007) related to breakdown activity. STI received commendations from customers during the calendar year (2007). Mr. Snow provided performance indicators from Dec 2006 through Dec 2007 demonstrating average completed service at 99%. Representative Shidler requested figures on the number of people riding between the Long Beach VA Hospital and downtown Long Beach. Mr. Snow concluded his report.

8. **Received** oral report on Metro's Long Range Transportation Plan –Robert Calix, Planning Manager, Long Range Planning. Mr. Calix shared with the Council that he grew up in the Gateway Cities area attending Huntington Park High and Henry T. Gage Middle School and worked in Downey. The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) has a horizon date of year 2030. Funding will be distributed over several projects with 58% of the plan dedicated to transit related projects; bus operation is 34% of the total county-wide operations with a percentage towards rail.

Mr. Calix informed the Council that 72% of public transportation investment funding is controlled by Metro. There is no surplus for new projects. He discussed funding such as state and federal sources but stated that most funding comes from local Prop A and C sales tax revenue. Mr. Calix provided an overview of base line transit projects (projects that are funded) over the next 22 years; baseline highway projects and baseline programs (i.e. sound wall refurbishing, Metrolink, and freeway service patrol). He spoke of Metro exploring new revenue sources such as public-private partnerships, congestion pricing, and congestion mitigation from new developments.

There will be a public review period for the LRTP between March 12 and April 25th. The LRTP is scheduled to be presented to the Board in June. Mr. Calix explained and reviewed the Strategic Project Tier lists for projects that may move forward should additional funding become available. Representative Cheri Kelly asked if the strategic list is prioritized within the tier structure. The Tier list is not prioritized. Representative Nelson asked Mr. Calix to return to the Sector to discuss the Gateway Cities projects in Tiers 1 and 2. Representative Kelly requested information on the Metro Green Line extension between the Norwalk Station and Metrolink. Mr. Calix agreed to provide this information. He invited members of the Council to submit questions for him to Mr. Hershenson or Mr. Clifford if there are future concerns. Representative Nelson complimented Mr. Calix on his report.

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9. **Received** oral report on Governance Council Member Line Ride – Wally Shidler. Representative Shidler commented that the 128 Line operated by First Transit was driven by a student operator accompanied by a regular driver. The rear door could not be used because of a mechanical problem. The bus had the old time table from 2006. There were 35 passengers eastbound and 28 on the return. Representative Shidler noted there were no facilities on the east end of the line for the operators.
10. **Received** oral report on Notification of Upcoming Governance Council Member Line Ride Report and Upcoming Line Rides – Alex Clifford. Mr. Clifford noted there would be no other line rides in February except the Line 60 Night Owl line ride on the 29th. The adopt a line schedule for March will be assigned to Representative Nelson riding Line 62 and Representative Kelley will be notified of her selected line ride
11. **Received** Chairperson's Remarks. Chair Eros-Delgado thanked everyone for coming to the monthly meetings, both staff and community. She wished everyone a good Valentine's Day.
12. **Received** Council Member's Remarks. Representative Shidler asked staff to speak to the South Bay Sector to inquire if Line 715 can be extended at least to Lakewood Boulevard (the Stonewood shopping center) in Downey. All the Sector Representatives wished each other and the attending public a Happy Valentine's Day.

Adjourned: 3:05 p.m.

Prepared by:

Raynard Vincent Price
Council Secretary