

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

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# MINUTES

San Fernando Valley Service Sector  
Governance Council

## Regular Meeting

Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center  
6262 Van Nuys Boulevard  
Van Nuys, CA 91401

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Called to Order at 6:33 P.M.

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Service Sector Representatives Present:

Brad Rosenheim, Chair  
Michael C. Cano  
Joan H. Leonard  
Nury Martinez  
Jesus R. Ochoa  
Marsha Ramos  
Kymberleigh Richards

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Officers Present:

Richard Hunt, General Manager  
William Walker, Council Secretary



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro**

1. Pledge of Allegiance
  
2. **APPROVED as corrected** (6-1) Minutes of Regular Governance Council Meeting held on December 3, 2008 to reflect the following:
  - a. Minutes shall reflect that public comment from Phillip Figatner was received prior to staff report on Item 7 (Line 724/794 Performance Report and Update)

Representative Richards voted No.

3. **RECEIVED Public Comment**

Nate Zeblen – suggested Lines 233 and 761 (Van Nuys Boulevard) operate on 10 minute headways in the daytime and 15 to 20 minute headways in the evening to improve the quality of life and encourage transit trips along the Van Nuys Boulevard corridor. He also suggested shorter headways on all corridors with existing north-south service in the San Fernando Valley.

4. **RECEIVED Chair’s Remarks** – Mr. Rosenheim announced the Service Changes Public Hearing scheduled for February 4, 2009 at 6:30pm. He invited public participation and said the hearing notice had been published in local newspapers.

5. **RECEIVED oral report of Richard Hunt, General Manager and APPROVED Richards Motion** under Special Consideration due to Time Restraint that the Chair of the San Fernando Service Sector Governance Council draft a letter urging elected representatives within the Service Sector to retain State Transit Assistance funding.

**General Manager’s Report**

- Sector Performance
  - Sector continues to lead the agency with the fewest number of accidents per hub mile, even though inclement weather increased incidents Sector-wide and agencywide during the month of November.
  - Mean miles between mechanical failures continues to improve with the Sector reaching the goal in November. Transit operations managers Maria Reynolds and Gary Spivack continue to identify problem areas in operations and maintenance contributing to bus failures.

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- Areas for improvement in coming months include complaints per 100,000 boardings and in-service on-time performance.
- Metro Board Update
  - Budget cuts at the State level and a 30 percent reduction of State Transit Assistance funds for this fiscal year will make funding shortfalls likely for this fiscal year and for upcoming years.
  - Board will work hard to ensure that Measure R funds cannot be siphoned away by the State.
  - Measure R will likely garner only 65 percent of anticipated funds for this fiscal year because it takes 8 months from initial implementation of Measure R and fund collection until funds accumulate and are transferred to Metro. Mr. Hunt encouraged Council Representatives and the public to urge their elected representatives to continue funding transit at the current levels.
  - Metro and other public agencies nationwide submitted a list of projects that can be implemented within 90 days of receiving funding from a proposed federal stimulus bill being considered by Congress.
- Other Updates
  - The June 2009 Service Changes Public Hearing will be held on February 4, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. in place of the February Governance Council Meeting.
  - Five new 45-foot, high-capacity composite buses arrived in the San Fernando Valley Service Sector.
  - Two of six hybrid gasoline buses arrived in the San Fernando Valley Service Sector, another example of Metro's commitment to green, sustainable technologies that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions regionally.
  - New 32-foot compressed natural gas (CNG) buses will begin arriving in 12 to 18 months replacing older vehicles currently operated by Metro Contract Service operators, on lines 96 and 167 within the San Fernando Valley Service Sector.
  - Metro Chief Executive Officer Roger Snoble announced his retirement after 7 years with the agency, pledging to continue until a successor is appointed.

RECEIVED Questions regarding General Manager's Report:

Representative Richards requested that a new hybrid bus be placed on display for the March meeting.

Representative Ramos encouraged Council Representatives to contact elected

State Representatives to encourage them to retain State Transit Assistance funding which not only supports Metro operations but also funds municipal operators and their transit services.

Representative Richards suggested the Council write a letter to representatives and offered to provide a letter already authored by the Southern California Transit Advocates germane to the issue.

6. CARRIED OVER oral report 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY 09 Performance Measures Report, by Stewart Chesler, Transportation Planning Manager IV, Service Planning & Development.
7. RECEIVED & FILED Rapid Bus Update on Lines 724 & 794, by Michael Brewer, Service Development Manager.

Mr. Brewer reported that ridership on both Lines 724 and 794 were down one to two percent month-to-month from October to November. He presented a chart that depicted ridership expansion from July to September of last year, tapering off at the beginning of October 2008 and beginning to decrease in November.

RECEIVED Questions regarding Rapid Bus Update on Lines 724 & 794

Representative Richards requested a chart comparing ridership on Lines 94, 724 and 794 post June 2008 service change with ridership data from Lines 94, 224 and 394 for the February 4 public hearing. Mr. Brewer agreed.

RECEIVED Public Comment regarding Rapid Bus Update on Lines 724 & 794

Philip Figatner – Said he supported retaining Line 724. He said Line 794 is 1.5 times longer than Line 724 and also has twice as many stops as Line 724. He believes that line length, stop spacing and boardings per stop and mile should be considered before making a decision to eliminate Line 724.

	Line 724	Line 794
Line Length	10 miles	15 miles
Number of stops	11 stops	21 stops
Passengers per mile	396	283
Average boardings per stop	360	240

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8. RECEIVED Service Sector Representatives Closing Remarks.

Representative Martinez said she would not be in attendance at the February meeting and requested an excused absence. Chair Rosenheim noted the absence.

ADJOURNED at 7:05 P.M

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. L. Walker', written over a horizontal line.

Prepared by: William L. Walker  
Council Secretary