



Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA
90012-2952

February 23, 2000

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM: JAMES L. de la LOZA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT**

**SUBJECT: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL
ORGANIZATIONS**

ISSUE

This report is prepared in response to the October 1997 Board action that requires the CEO or designee to report quarterly to the Board on the status and progress of regional external organizations on which MTA is represented by Board members or elected-official appointees. Board members may request that any item described in this report be brought forward for discussion at a future Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

Attachment A is the Quarterly Report on Regional External Organizations: Fiscal Year 1999-00 1st Quarter ending December 31, 1999. As a regional transportation agency, MTA participates on the boards of eight organizations.

The following report summarizes the roles and responsibilities, status, and progress of each organization.

Prepared by: Douglas Kim, Air Quality Program Manager
Countywide Planning

Attachments

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 1) Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA)		LEAD MTA STAFF: Carol Inge Patricia Chen PHONE NUMBER: (213) 922-3056 (213) 922-3041	
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The Joint Powers Authority is made up of MTA, OCTA, RCTC, SANBAG, and VCTC. Mission: Plan, construct, and administer the operation of regional passenger rail lines (what came to be known as "Metrolink").		MTA REPRESENTATIVES/ALTERNATES: Michael Antonovich/.....Robert Bartlett Larry Zarian/.....Francine Oschin Richard Riordan/.....Nathan Brogin Hal Bernson/.....James Ledford	
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*
Adoption of Human Resource Policies	As part of an ongoing effort to implement the recommendations of a peer review management study completed in 1998, SCRRA staff has developed a set of human resource policies. This policy was adopted at the SCRRA October Board meeting. Previously SCRRA used human resources policies of member agencies.	N/A	NA
Adoption of Revised Evaluation Criteria for Procurements Exceeding \$50,000	As part of an ongoing effort to implement the recommendations of a peer review management study completed in 1998, SCRRA staff has revised its evaluation criteria to address concerns that its existing criteria resulted in contracts consistently awarded to the lowest bidder, raising potential concerns regarding quality of procured services or products. The revised criteria were approved at the SCRRA November Board meeting.	N/A	NA
Metrolink Train Incident in Fullerton	On the morning of November 18 th a Metrolink Train traveling southbound on the Orange County Line struck a Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) freight train. 19 people aboard the Metrolink train were injured.	MTA buses transported approximately 450 passengers to Orange County Line stations which could not be served on the afternoon of the incident.	NA
FY 2000-01 Budget Development	N/A	In January or February, 2000 SCRRA staff will begin developing the FY 2000-01 budget, including service levels and the MTA budget share.	NA

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS
2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 2) Southern California Intercity Rail Group Joint Powers Board (SCIRG)		LEAD MTA STAFF: Patricia Chen PHONE NUMBER: (213) 922-3041	
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Joint Powers Authority made up of MTA, OCTA, RCTC, SANBAG, SANDAG, SLOCOG, SBCAG, VCTC and SCAG. Mission: Determine the net benefit or cost of transferring Caltrans-administered intercity rail service (Amtrak) responsibility and state funding to a Southern California Rail Joint Powers Agency which would administer the operation of intercity rail service in the corridor between San Diego and San Luis Obispo.		MTA REPRESENTATIVES: Robert Arthur Hal Bernson	
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*
Approve Vision Statement and Goals, Strategies and Work Plan	At the December, 1999 SCIRG Board meeting a Vision Statement was adopted. Also adopted was a list of Goals and Strategies, including Work Plan elements.	Over the next six months to 1-1/2 years, SCIRG will be working to implement the Vision and Goals. MTA staff has prepared an item for the February MTA Executive Management Committee to review and support the SCIRG Vision and Goals. By June, 2000, MTA staff anticipates returning to the Board with a recommendation to renew its authorization of MTA participation in SCIRG.	To be Determined
SCIRG Comments on Caltrans Passenger Rail Program Report FY 2000-FY2009	SCIRG worked on a letter to the Director of Caltrans commenting on the Caltrans Passenger Rail Program Report FY 2000-FY2009 During the December, 1999 Board meeting. One of the key issues to be addressed is the report's inclusion of a definition of "intercity rail" which specifically excludes commuter rail, with potential to prevent commuter rail operators such as the SCRRA ineligible to receive certain state funding for its operations.	The letter is anticipated to be finalized during the 3 rd Quarter, FY 1999-2000, with language recommending a more flexible definition be included in the report.	S
Re-Branding of San Diegan Service	At the December Meeting of SCIRG, Amtrak made a presentation about Pacific Surfliner service which is the new name for the San Diegan line operating between San Diego and San Luis Obispo, via Los Angeles Union Station. The line will be served by a completely new train fleet, purchased primarily by Amtrak, with a contribution from Caltrans.	The service is scheduled for launch in April, 2000.	N/A

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 3) Los Angeles-San Diego Rail Corridor Agency (LOSSAN)		LEAD MTA STAFF: PHONE NUMBER:	Patricia Chen (213) 922-3041
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: LOSSAN is a Joint Powers Authority composed of OCTA, MTA, NTCB and Caltrans. (Ex officio members include: SCAG, SanDAG, VCTC, and SB-CAPC.) The organization's mission is the following: Provide efficient, effective inter-city rail services in the Los Angeles-San Diego Rail corridor. Specifics: Coordinate capital improvements along the corridor; develop capital program to secure funding from the State and the Federal governments; coordinate and conduct a legislative and lobbying program at the federal and state level for LOSSAN corridor issues, especially those that give voice to funding needs and funding inequities.		MTA REPRESENTATIVES/ALTERNATES: Robert Arthur (Alternate: Vacant)	
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*
LOSSAN's Relationship to SCIRG	SCIRG has elected not to merge with LOSSAN.	LOSSAN will continue to pursue funding for improvements in the intercity rail corridor between Los Angeles and San Diego.	S

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 4) Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC)		LEAD MTA STAFF: Douglas Kim PHONE NUMBER: (213) 922-2817	
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: MSRC is an independent entity created by State law which allocates about \$12 million annually in AB 2766 discretionary funds from a portion of an annual \$4 DMV surcharge. This revenue is used to fund programs that reduce air pollution from motor vehicles. MTA represents its interests and those of L.A. County jurisdictions. The MSRC is composed of eight member agencies: MTA, South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), California Air Resources Board (CARB), and Southern California Rideshare (regional rideshare agency).		MTA REPRESENTATIVES/ALTERNATES: Beatrice LaPisto-Kirtley (Alternate: Vacant)	
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*
FY 1999-2000 work program	The MSRC continued to execute contracts for projects funded in August 1999.	N/A	NA
MTA award for \$6,394,640	MTA executed a contract with the MSRC for its \$6,394,640 award for the purchase of 277 CNG buses. The award will help offset the \$35,000 incremental cost of each CNG engine by paying for \$23,000 of this cost per bus.	N/A	NA
FY 2000-2001 work program	The MSRC began the process of developing funding categories and priorities for the next fiscal year work plan, known as the Work Program Development process. RFPs could be released as early as March.	The MSRC will develop funding priorities and release RFPs. After proposals are submitted, the MSRC will evaluate proposals and recommend funding for specific projects in the fall.	NA

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS
2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 5) Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA)		LEAD MTA STAFF: Michelle E. Smith PHONE NUMBER: (213) 922-3057	
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: ACTA is responsible for managing the design and construction of the Alameda Corridor program. ACTA is composed of the following member agencies: MTA, City of Los Angeles, City of Long Beach, Port of Long Beach, and Port of Los Angeles.		MTA REPRESENTATIVES: Yvonne Burke Don Knabe	
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*
Alameda Corridor-Mid Corridor Construction-Status	The mid corridor construction consists of building a 33 foot deep trench for freight trains. Construction of the mid Corridor by-pass track and storage tracks are currently underway. The by-pass track work includes construction of a temporary rail line immediately east of the existing tracks and the future trench. By-pass traffic management plans are being developed for review by the corridor cities. The Mid-Corridor project design submittals for 60%, and 100% are underway.	Mid-Corridor trench under construction Completion of all Mid-Corridor project design submittals for 30% and 60%. Full implementation of the Mid-Corridor baseline schedule. Continuous construction activities.	N NA
South End Construction-Status	Henry Ford Grade Separation Project was awarded by the Governing Body on September 9, 1999 to Shimmick/Obayashi JV. Multiple construction projects are underway including the Henry Ford Grade Separation Project, the Compton Creek project and a number of County of LA and City of Carson Ports Access Demonstration Projects. PCH Grade Separation Project continues to lag due to unresolved right of way issues involving one property owner, LA and Caltrans. (LA and Caltrans will have a joint meeting to resolve issues with the property owner.)	Continuous construction activities.	NA
North End Construction-Status	Multiple construction projects are underway including the Redondo Junction Grade Separation Project, structures construction (bridges and box culvert) and underground utility relocations at Santa Fe Avenue.	Continuous construction activities. The UP Soto Street bridge is expected to go to construction in the Spring.	NA
Alameda Corridor Risk Management	On November 18, 1999 the Governing Board approved and authorized the implementation of the Charter for an Ad Hoc Oversight Audit Advisory Committee. The Audit Advisory Committee will provide a forum for monitoring and discussing internal and external audit matters. The committee is comprised of three members of the Governing Board representing the POLA, POLB and LACMTA.	The Ad Hoc Committee will define the standards that guide the internal Audit Department, the scope and frequency of audits, audit report formats and requirements.	NA

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS
2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 5) Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA)		LEAD MTA STAFF: PHONE NUMBER:		Michelle E. Smith (213) 922-3057
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: ACTA is responsible for managing the design and construction of the Alameda Corridor program. ACTA is composed of the following member agencies: MTA, City of Los Angeles, City of Long Beach, Port of Long Beach, and Port of Los Angeles.		MTA REPRESENTATIVES: Yvonne Burke Don Knabe		
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*	
Corridor Cities-Construction Impact Mitigation Measures	Construction impact mitigation measures are in process and ongoing. Direct traffic management plans for the segment of the project in Compton is under review. ACTA will report on-going construction relations activities at monthly Engineering Review Panel meetings. ACTA's web-site will contain notices, detours and other project related activities.	For each stage of construction ACTA, in conjunction with the local agency, will develop a traffic management plan for each project segment. (Contractor will submit draft Traffic Management plans for Vernon/LA, Huntington Park and South Gate for review.)	NA	

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 6) Regional Transportation Agencies Coalition (RTAC)		LEAD MTA STAFF: PHONE:	Douglas Kim -- General RTAC Cosette Stark -- Rideshare/SB 836 (213)922-2817
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: RTAC provides member agencies with a forum to discuss legislative mandates of mutual interest as set forth in AB 1246. The mandates include SB 836, legislation which provided \$3 million for implementation of MTA's Regional Rideshare Program (comprised of Rideshare 2000 and Club Metro). RTAC addresses issues of common interest in the areas of transportation, mobility, and air quality with the intent of facilitating identification, coordination, and resolution of issues affect member agencies. RTAC is funded by a different member agency each calendar year which chairs the organization; MTA chaired RTAC in 1998 and RCTC is chairing RTAC in 1999. RTAC is composed of eight voting member agencies: MTA, Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), Imperial County, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and Caltrans. The five Southern California air districts are ex-officio members.		MTA REPRESENTATIVES: Vacant	
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*
Election of Officers	No activity	On January 28, 2000, the RTAC will elect new officers for 2000.	
Meeting Schedule	No activity	On January 28, 2000, the RTAC will approve a quarterly meeting schedule. The next meeting would be April 14, 2000.	
Approval of SB 836 Reimbursement and Project Narrative Reports	No activity	The RTAC is scheduled to meet January 28, 2000 to approve invoices for MTA's Rideshare 2000 project that run from March-October 1999 (periods 12-15). RTAC will also vote to confer authority for approving SB 836 invoices to the RTAC TAC. This will ensure timely processing of invoices and reimbursement of costs.	NA

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 7) SCAG Transportation and Communications Committee (TCC)		LEAD MTA STAFF: Douglas Kim PHONE NUMBER: (213)922-2817	
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: TCC is the policy advisory committee to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Council on all regional matters pertaining to the movement of goods and people. The SCAG region includes six counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, and Imperial. TCC reviews and recommends to the Planning Committee the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). The TCC also provides recommendations to SCAG's Planning Committee on state and federal legislation proposals and administrative guidelines affecting planning and capital improvement programs for transportation and utility development.		MTA REPRESENTATIVES: John Fasana (SGVCOG) Hal Bernson (City of Los Angeles) Jenny Oropeza (City of Long Beach) MTA Seat: Vacant	
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update	SCAG is underway on its development of the 2001 RTP. In December, subregions and CTCs provided SCAG will proposed unconstrained projects for consideration. These will be the basis for initial modeling of different scenarios.	SCAG's RTP task forces will hold three meetings between January and April 2000 to provide final recommendations between late March and early April 2000. The goal is to prepare a draft RTP by June 2000. Final adoption of the RTIP is slated for May 2001.	NA
Legislative Program for 2000	On December 2, 1999, TCC approved a legislative program for 2000 that sets boundaries for staff and lobbyists who pursue federal and state legislation. Priorities were developed for transportation, housing and land use, air quality, and water resources.	Regional Council will consider the legislative program in January 2000.	NA
Heavy-Duty Truck Model	SCAG completed its integration of the heavy-duty truck model with its Regional Travel Demand Model. This will help forecast heavy-duty truck travel patterns, traffic volumes, vehicle activity, and air quality impact. This will help the regional model better predict congestion and air quality impacts of the RTP.		NA

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Attachment A: QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGIONAL EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS
2nd Quarter: ending December 31, 1999

ORGANIZATION: 8) Fuel Cell Buyers Consortium (FCBC)		LEAD MTA STAFF: PHONE NUMBER:		Eck Chaiboonma (213) 922-3014
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: FCBC is a non-profit public benefit corporation with the following roles and responsibilities: 1. Improve bus service through the Fuel Cell-Powered Advanced Technology Transit Bus (ATTB), 2. Improve air quality through zero- and low-emission Fuel Cell-Powered ATTB, 3. Capture economic benefits from fuel cell manufacturing, and 4. Create new high technology jobs. FCBC is composed of the following member agencies: MTA, Los Angeles County, City of Los Angeles (Mayor's office), and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The FCBC can also include a member designated by the Private Sector Advisory Group, as well as two other members appointed by the FCBC.		MTA REPRESENTATIVES/ALTERNATES: James Cragin (Alternate: Vacant)		
Issue	Quarterly Actions (Including Dates of Actions)	6-Month Projected Actions	MTA Position*	
FCBC Staff	Appointed Josie Nicasio as Chief Financial Officer at the FCBC Board of Directors meeting on September 22, 1999.	Replace Dr. Chung Liu as Vice President with Mr. Ranji George	NA	
UC Davis	Approved additional funding to the UC Davis contract in the amount of \$25,000 to integrate the MatrixX code modules developed by JPL/SriSoft Corp. and all code written by UC Davis, including control module, into the MatrixX ATTB simulation delivered by Northrop Grumman at the FCBC Board of Directors meeting on September 22, 1999.	Develop control module and integrate the MatrixX code developed by JPL/SriSoft Corp. and all code written by UC Davis into the MatrixX ATTB simulation.	NA	
Advanced Technology Transit Bus (ATTB)	Approved award of contract to AC Propulsion, \$18,700, AeroVironment, \$16,500 and Coval H2Partnes, \$25,000 to provide independent assessments of the ATTB and recommendations for upgrading the bus. Action was approved on September 22, 1999.	Submit staff proposed recommendations with copy of reports to the Fuel Cell Board of Directors by January 2000. Issue ATTB-Request for Information (RFI) to bus manufacturers. Prepare ATTB Pricing Information and expenditure schedule for ATTB development and procurement. Contact FTA to discuss possible funding participation.	NA	