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TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: THOMAS K. CONNER *Thomas Conner*
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SUBJECT: BUS PROCUREMENT STATUS UPDATE FOR
DECEMBER 1999

ISSUE

Since there is no scheduled December Operations Committee Meeting, this report is being forwarded to the Board. The next update and briefing is scheduled for January 2000.

BUS PROCUREMENT STATUS UPDATE

During November 1999, the MTA accepted and put into service a total 45 buses, which includes 20 ethanol conversion buses and 25 New Flyer CNG High Floor buses.

- As of December 1, 1999, a total of 58 New Flyer buses has been shipped to Los Angeles. During November, 25 buses were accepted and put into service. New Flyer appears to have resolved manufacturing problems that had prevented them from getting buses into condition for MTA acceptance in a timely manner, and the buses being delivered have relatively few notable defects. Unless there are significant unforeseen production problems on the remaining coaches, staff anticipates that New Flyer should be able to sustain a rate of delivering 15-20+ buses per week through the remainder of this contract. The contract requires completion of the entire order by January 1, 2000. New Flyer will not be able to meet this date, and will be assessed a penalty of \$100 per lost bus day.
- **NABI** began production of bus frames in October 1999, but they now project a two week delay getting buses shipped to Los Angeles. At this time, they anticipate delivering the first buses in early February 2000, and these buses will likely be made ready for service by late February or early March.

Since late November, both the pilot bus (bus 7000) and NABI's lightweight

“CompoBus” have been in Los Angeles for testing. Both of these buses will be returned to NABI later this month. Bus 7000 will serve as the “First Article” bus for reference (all other buses are compared to this bus for completeness in the inspection process).

- **Detroit Diesel Corporation (DDC)** completed the conversion of 20 buses in November, 1999. As of December 1, 1999, a total of 270 (81%) of the original 333 ethanol/methanol buses was converted to a diesel configuration. This program continues to move forward ahead of the contract schedule and should be completed in February 2000.
- **The MTA has accepted** all buses under contract from Neoplan of America. Now that all Neoplan buses are received and in-service, staff has refocussed its attention on resolving performance and reliability problems (engine performance, stalling, and range are the biggest issues). In November, Procurement issued a letter directing Neoplan to provide a plan for resolving outstanding contractual issues with these vehicles.

Prepared by: John Drayton

Attachment 1: Summary of Bus Delivery Schedule

Attachment 2: Summary of New Bus Assignments

Delivery Schedule Summary

	294 Bus* Neoplan Order (carried over from FY97)	250 Neoplan (Base)	New Flyer "Las Vegas" Buses	Neoplan (50 Bus Option)	Neoplan (100 Bus Option)	New Flyer (Base)	NABI (Base)	New Flyer (Option)	Nabi Option (Not exercised)	Future Bus Buys (through FY04)	Consent Decree Buses***	Total New Buses (Through FY04)	Ethanol Conversion**
Total Buses in Contract	37	250	20	50	100	223	215	223	215	762	297	2392	324
Technology	High Floor CNG	High Floor CNG	Low Floor Diesel	High Floor CNG	High Floor CNG	High Floor CNG	Low Floor CNG	Low Floor CNG	Low Floor CNG	Low Floor	Low Floor		High Floor Diesel
Final Bus Delivery Date (per Contract)	Sep-97	Sep-98	Sep-98	Dec-98	Jul-99	Dec-99	Oct-01	Dec-00	Oct-02	Jun-04	Jun-02		Jun-00
Proposed Delivery Date (Current Schedule)	Sep-97	Sep-98	Sep-98	Dec-98	Jul-99	Feb-00	Jun-00	Dec-00	Oct-02	Jun-04	Jun-02		
Summary - Deliveries/Acceptances													
Total Scheduled Deliveries (Thru Dec 1, '99)	37	250	20	50	100	97	0	0	0	0	297	851	
Actual Buses Accepted (Thru Dec 1 '99)	37	250	20	50	100	36	0	0	0	0	0	493	270
New Buses in Revenue Service	37	250	20	50	100	30	0	0	0	0	0	487	260
Buses Remaining in Contract(s)	0	0	0	0	0	193	215	223	215	0	0	846	64
Percentage Completion	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	13.45%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.36%	80.25%

<u>Status of Accelerated Bus Procurement Plan</u>	
New Buses in Revenue Service	487
Buses Remaining in Contracts	631
Option Buses Available (NABI option may expire if not exercised by 1/00)	215
Additional Buses for Consent Decree	297
Remaining Buses in Procurement Plan (Through FY04)	762
Total Buses in Plan (FY98-FY04)	2392

* 37 Buses from the original 294 Bus Neoplan Contract were delivered & accepted in FY98. These buses were included as part of the Accelerated Bus Procurement Plan.

There were a total of 257 Neoplan CNG buses delivered to the MTA in FY96 and FY97, so total new bus deliveries from FY96 - FY04 will total 2649 (257+2095+297).

**Of the original 333 ethanol/methanol coaches purchased by the MTA in 1989-1992, eight were converted to diesel, and one to CNG, outside of the conversion program.

This leaves 324 buses remaining to be converted under this program.

***Funding for the additional 297 buses has not yet been identified.

New Bus Assignments

Assignments as of Dec. 1, 1999	Total Buses on Order	Buses Delivered*	Buses "Accepted" and put in service*												Special Assignment (Training)	
				Div 1	Div 2	Div 3	Div 5	Div 6	Div 7	Div 8	Div 9	Div 10	Div 15	Div 18		
				Downtown	Downtown	Cypress Park	South Central	Venice	West Hollywood	Chatsworth	El Monte	Downtown	Sun Valley	Torrance		
<u>New Buses</u> (Buses Ordered under Accelerated Plan)																
Neoplan (FY96 Procurement Contract)	37	37	37												37	
Neoplan	400	400	400			100						203			97	
New Flyer (Las Vegas Buses)	20	20	20				20									
New Flyer (Base)*	223	36	30	A total of 100-120 New Flyer-LF CNG buses will be assigned to Div 3. The remainder of this order will be assigned to Div 5.		30	Proposed, 100-120 NF CNG									2
NABI	215	0	0							Proposed, 200 NABI LF CNG	Proposed, 15 20 NABI LF- CNG	NABI Buses will support "Rapid Bus" program out of Div's 7 & 8.				
New Flyer (Option)	223	0	0	Proposed, 100-120 NF CNG			Proposed, 100-120 NF CNG									
New Bus Buys (1274 Buses through FY04)	0	0	0													
Total New Buses	1118	493	487	0	0	130	20	0	0	0	0	203	0	134	2	
Ethanol Conversion	324	270	260	41	63	0	38	10	54	0	53	1	0	0	0	

NOTE: A total of 120-130 of the New Flyer buses will ultimately be assigned to Division 3. The remainder will be assigned to Division 5.