

LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

September 14, 1977

Meeting was called to order by Chairman John Ferraro at 3:07 p.m.

Members present:

Councilman Ferraro  
Supervisor Kenneth Hahn  
Councilwoman Renee Simon  
Wendell Cox  
Robert Geoghegan, alternate for Supervisor Edelman  
Ray Remy, alternate for Mayor Bradley  
Peter Tweedt, alternate for Supervisor Schabarum

Staff Members present:

Jerome C. Premo, Executive Director  
Ronald Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel  
Robert T. Andersen, Consultant  
Barna Szabo, Chief Deputy to Supervisor Hayes  
Gordon Jackson, representing Mayor Zimmerman  
Tim Egan, Director, Intergovernmental Relations  
Kathy Torigoe, Secretary to Executive Director

Supervisor Hahn announced that Mayor Ed Russ had been stricken by a heart attack and suggested that flowers be sent to him from the Commission.

Minutes of August 24, 1977 were approved as submitted.

Receive and File:

- A. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) 8/4/77 letter regarding EIS on Route 7.
- B. FHWA approval of 1977-78 Transportation Improvement Program.
- C. Notice of Meetings - Note and File

## 1977 Caltrans Six-Year Program:

Presentation by Mr. Datel on Six-Year Program: The Planning Program is still a preliminary program until acted on by the CHC. CALTRANS anticipates revenues of 6.4 billion during the Six-Year Program, 2.5 billion for capital outlay, and 3.9 for fixed costs. District 7 will receive 1.7 billion of the total.

Mr. Datel explained that CALTRANS doesn't agree with the high priority by LACTC of Routes 30, 47, 138, 90 and 2; a public transitway on Route 11 and Route 126 in Ventura, and the Routes 5/55 interchange in Orange County would be competitive projects. Additionally, Route 7 is the highest priority of non-interstate projects.

Mr. Datel emphasized the need for cooperative and consensus planning. Presently, the LACTC priorities are somewhat different than the CALTRANS priorities. Consensus can be achieved through the legislative route (not desirable) or the negotiating route (preferable). As to the \$60M shortfall, there are many reasons, most important is that several projects slipped from target dates. These were: The Century Freeway, the Long Beach Freeway, Route 22 in Long Beach, and the Beverly Hills Freeway.

It would be advisable for the Commission to work closely with the Department to influence the CALTRANS process in job selection and effort.

Testimony offered by Supervisor Hahn on September 1, 1977 before the California Highway Commission in Santa Monica is attached as EXHIBIT A.

### Committee Reports:

Legislative Committee: (see EXHIBIT B)

Barna Szabo reported on the following bills:

AB 1237 - Has some features which have been added subsequent to recommendations presented by Commission.

- (1) The addition of a non-voting members to this Commission who would be appointed by the Governor to the Commission.
- (2) City of Los Angeles and its authority with respect to the LAX People Mover was enlarged to design, construct, and operate the People Mover.

- (3) Date for submission of Commission final report to the Legislature has been changed from February 1 to July 1, 1978, although we are required to submit an interim report by February 1st.

An item which is of some importance to this Commission has not been addressed in AB 1237 but hopefully the matter might be better handled under AB 402. This is the definition of highways of statewide significance.

Concerning appointment of alternates, the bill authorized the Mayor, the City Selection Committee and the Long Beach City Council to appoint an alternate member to the Commission. The bill also specified that the terms of the Commission members now to be initially 4 years and the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee, excluding the members from Long Beach and Los Angeles, shall not appoint any members to serve more than 2 terms.

SB 759 - Does recognize the Commission as an appropriate body to analyze transit operational improvements. One issue that has not been addressed in the bill is the use of spillover funds out of SB 325. The Legislative Committee felt that the Commission will eventually have to initiate it's own bill to deal with that particular situation rather than deal with the matter through SB 759.

AB 402 - Bill is now on the Governor's desk. One key change in the bill is that the funding will be based on the formula of the 1974 Needs Study rather than the 1977 Needs Study. The appeal process has been strengthened in the bill, allowing all jurisdictions to submit their appeals by August 1 and force the State Commission to hear those concerns from local agencies.

Executive Director Premo stated that he had received a call on September 13 from the Assistant Secretary of the Business and Transportation Agency asking that Mr. Premo raise at the Commission meeting the fact that the Secretary of the Business and Transportation Commission would like to receive from this Commission 4 or 5 names of individuals whom this Commission would like to have sit on the new Commission.

M/S/C - That the Commission send a letter to the Governor urging him to sign AB 402 and if the Governor signs AB 402, then the

Commission send another letter suggesting that the Governor consider appointing at least 2 of his 9 appointees from people who have local government understanding and experience.

Chairman Ferraro thanked Supervisor Hahn on behalf of the LACTC for doing a magnificent job in his presentation to the California Highway Commission on September 1, 1977 in Santa Monica.

AB 1237 and SB 759 - Bill is on the Governor's desk for signature.

M/S/C - That the Commission send a letter signed by John Ferraro, Chairman, and Kenneth Hahn, Vice-Chairman, to the Governor urging his signature for the support of AB 1237 and his signature on SB 759.

SB 213 (Mills) - Bill provides for a 1¢ increase in the gasoline tax for Los Angeles County, and is presently on the Governor's desk. This bill would give permissive power of this Commission to place on the ballot a 1¢ increase in gasoline tax to be used for transit guideway purposes and for busways.

M/S/C - That the Commission correspond with the Governor indicating that the Commission urges him to sign SB 213.

SB 829 (Rodda) - Commissioner Ed Cano inquired about this bill which he thinks concerns installing on all buses traveling in the urban and suburban areas to have lamps to activate traffic signals. He believes that the bill is on the Governor's desk. Tom Narrigan, Santa Monica Municipal Bus Lines, stated he thinks that the Legislation changes the Vehicle Code to allow bus operators to install those lamps so that if they have signal preemption projects that they can have a light on the bus.

This matter will be referred to the TAC and Bus Operations Subcommittee before the Commission takes a position.

Barna Szabo stated that the Legislative Committee in November will provide the Commission with a status report on all bills acted on by the Governor or still pending before the Legislature.

Administrative Committee:

Robert Geoghegan reported that the A/C met to discuss the fringe benefit package and made recommendations. See EXHIBIT C.

M/S/C - Approved A/C's recommendations.

Payroll Services Package: A/C did not make any recommendations. Robert T. Andersen submitted a report to the Executive Director (See EXHIBIT D)

M/S/C - Approved recommendation by Robert T. Andersen.

Office Space: - A/C did not make any recommendations. Executive Director Premo reported on recommendation for Office Space at 311 South Spring Street and would like to come back to the Commission with a contract for the office space.

M/S/C - Approved recommendation by Executive Director Premo and Robert T. Andersen and authorized Executive Director to obtain a lease for the office space.

Recommendation from Public Hearing Board on "Unmet Transit Needs" outside SCRTD:

Wendell Cox reported on the public hearing held on September 8 in Valencia. He stated that the turnout was good with 50 or 75 people in attendance. There were 4 people on the hearing board - Wendell Cox as chairman, Tim Egan represented the Commission, and Jerry Leonard of Supervisor Ward's office represented SCAG, and Councilwoman Lynda Cook of Palmdale, also representing SCAG. The finding of the hearing board was that there were unmet transit needs in both the City of Palmdale and in the unincorporated area. Commissioner Cox asked the Commission for no action on this finding at this time until the people can be notified by notice when this Commission is going to take an action on the finding. Cox proposed that the finding be discussed at the next Commission meeting if possible, and also suggested that next year that two meetings be held - one in Santa Clarita Valley and one in Antelope Valley.

Findings on this public hearing will be sent to the TAC and Commission staff for development of a recommendation for consideration by the Commission.

Executive Director's Report:

October 5-6 - SCAG General Assembly:

Dick Page, Administrator for UMTA, will be speaking on the morning of the 6th. Secretary Brock Adams will be here in Los Angeles on the 4th. Tentatively, plans are being made to have a Special Commission meeting in the afternoon of October 4, 1977.

September 28 or 29 - LACTC Meeting:

Because September 28 is the closing day of the League of California Cities Conference in San Francisco, Commission staff will informally check with Commission members if meeting date of September 28 should be rescheduled to the 29th.

September 19-21 - National Conference on Transit Productivity:

UMTA is sponsoring conference in Norfolk, Virginia. Mayor Bradley is one of the two national co-chairpersons. Commissioner Cox has been invited to attend. Executive Director stated that Don Camph of Commission staff will participate in this conference along with Commissioner Cox.

October 9-13 - American Public Transit Association (APTA) Annual Conference:

Executive Director passed out information on this conference which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia and hoped that members of the Commission would have the time to attend this meeting. He asked that interested members notify the staff before the next Commission meeting.

Request from Mayor Bradley for Endorsement of the Regional Transit Development Program:

Mr. Premo stated that the SCRTPD is taking a formal action in support of the 4-Part Program, the Board of Supervisors will shortly consider such a motion, the City is considering such a motion, and the request is before this Commission to act. He also stated that there was a briefing of this Commission on the 11th of May on the 4-Part Program and on the 10th of August through the endorsement of the TIP, this Commission did take official action on each aspect of the 4-Part Program.

M/S/C - Approved Resolution No. R-77-356 of the Regional Transit Development Program (See EXHIBIT E)

Route 7 Suit:

The LACTC was sued by the City of Los Angeles on Route 7. Ron Schneider reported that the LACTC was sued by the Cities of Los Angeles, Alhambra, and Pasadena on the pending Route 7 litigation between South Pasadena and the State, and Caltrans. The judge was informed by Caltrans to have the LACTC come in as

an interested party. They asked that the Commission cooperate with the defendants and they want the State to submit any EIS to the Commission for its approval. Mr. Schneider recommends that the Commission answer the Cross-Claims list as an affirmative defense indicate that the Commission has certain responsibilities as set forth in the Code and the Commission has not taken any official action with regard to any of the responsibilities that are required to do for the Route 7 freeway.

Commission authorized Legal Counsel to respond to the Cross-Claim and follow through with it.

Executive Director Premo introduced Don Camph to the Commission Members

Conference on Taxis as Public Transit:

Report by Don Camph: A conference exploring the concept of taxis as public transportation was held by the Institute of Transportation Studies, University of California, Irvine, September 7-9, 1977. The basic conclusion is that taxis are an important carrier of people in Los Angeles County, and that taxi-cabs can play a role in a balanced transportation portfolio.

For perspective, the following statistics may be useful:

Annually, taxis in Los Angeles County carry 20% as many passengers as RTD, and 50% as many people as travel the Santa Monica Freeway.

Annually, Taxis in Los Angeles County collect \$65,000,000 in gross revenues, which is 60% of RTD farebox revenue.

Annually, Taxis in Los Angeles County carry people a total of 324 million miles, about 25% of RTD.

Numerous papers were presented at the Conference, discussing various aspects of taxis as public transit such as technology, innovation, marketing, regulations, and implementation of special services.

A compendium of these papers is forthcoming.

Announcements:

Executive Director announced that announcements of available positions for staffing for the Commission. These advertisements will appear publicly in the Western Research Journal

Citizens Advisory Committee:

Meeting is scheduled for the night of September 29, at 7:00 p.m. at the L.A. Convention Center. Letters are being sent to the appointees to the Citizens Advisory Committee. Staff is still waiting for a few more names from Commission members.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for September 29, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. Department of Water and Power Building, Room 1555-H, 111 N. Hope Street, Los Angeles.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jerome C. Premo*

JEROME C. PREMO  
Executive Director and  
Secretary of the Commission

JCP:kyt

Attachments

cc: Commissioners, Alternates,  
Deputies, SCAG, SCRTD,  
Caltrans, TAC members