



LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION • 311 SOUTH SPRING STREET—SUITE 1206, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90013 • (213) 626-0370

MINUTES

August 12, 1981

The regular Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Russ Rubley at 3:15 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

Chairman Russ Rubley
Mayor Ed Russ
Councilman John Zimmerman
Councilwoman Pat Russell
Wendell Cox
Robert Geoghegan, alternate to Supervisor Edelman
Robert Reeves, alternate to Supervisor Hahn
Barna Szabo, alternate to Supervisor Dana
Ted Pierce, alternate to Supervisor Antonovich
Councilwoman Chris Reed, alternate to Mayor Russ
Heinz Heckerth, ex-officio representing the State of California

Staff members in attendance were:

Rick Richmond, Executive Director
Ron Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel
Phyllis Eder, Secretary

MAYOR GOLDWAY'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Ruth Goldway welcomed the Commissioners to Santa Monica and reiterated the City's invitation to the Commissioners for dinner.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Commissioners adjourned to an Executive Session at 3:20 p.m., and reconvened the meeting at 3:55 p.m. Mr. Russ made a motion that the contract for the law firm of Nossaman, Krueger & Marsh be amended for an additional \$60,000. Mr. Zimmerman seconded Mr. Russ's motion. The motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Mr. Rubley welcomed Mr. Dee Jacobs of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration. Mr. Jacobs reiterated that among the President's objectives in the transit program is to try and

) maintain or increase the use of bus transportation programs, and that the federal government is always in support of well managed bus operators, such as the Santa Monica Municipal Bus Lines.

Mr. Rubley mentioned the groundbreaking ceremony held on August 5 for the Redondo Beach Blvd. off-ramp, as part of the connection of the Route 91 and Route 11 Freeways. Several Commissioners were in attendance, including Mayor Russ, Supervisor Hahn, Ray Remy and Robert Reeves.

Mr. Rubley also mentioned that a compromise had been reached on modifications to in the Consent Decree on the Century Freeway. The compromise is agreed to in principle by the Corridor Cities.

Mr. Rubley said that since it has been the practice of the Commission to have only one meeting in July and August, there will not be a second meeting in August. The next Commission meeting will be September 9, at the Department of Water and Power.

JOHN ZIMMERMAN'S INTRODUCTION OF A CHANGE TO THE FOUR-PART PROGRAM

) Mr. Zimmerman stressed the importance of planning an alternative transit program, now that federal funding has been cut for the DPM project. Mr. Zimmerman's suggestion was an aerially-supported light rail system travelling above the surface flow of traffic supported by cables and metal pylons. Mr. Zimmerman reviewed the advantages of this mode, including locating it in the medians of existing freeways or installed and operated over existing railroads without interference, and that the cost of construction would be substantially less than other proposals that had been made.

Mr. Zimmerman reviewed the possible routes and explained the first phase of construction into LAX could be completed by 1984, in time for the Olympics.

Mr. Zimmerman made a motion that Chairman Rubley appoint three Commissioners as an ad hoc light rail transit committee to provide a preliminary design assessment of the suspended light rail mode of transit, such as, but not limited to, the sky shuttle. The committee shall seek the most economical and effective means of doing so, but is not authorized to recommend the expenditure of more than \$250,000, and is to submit its completed assessment within 90 days. Ms. Russell seconded Mr. Zimmerman's motion.

A short question and answer period followed Mr. Zimmerman's presentation.

) Mr. Russ suggested that a coordination of all the studies on this type of project be made and that the motion be returned to the Finance Review Committee.

Mr. Cox agreed with Mr. Russ' concerns and also expressed his own concern about the use of the term light rail applied to aerial technology.

Mr. Zimmerman then offered a separate motion that would appoint the Ad Hoc Committee and then come back with the funding amounts.

Mr. Szabo requested a clarification of the work to be done, and a brief review by staff as to what documents are available and what then should be done by the Committee, and then return to the Finance Review Committee for approval of the funds to expend for the RFP.

Mr. Zimmerman and Ms. Russell agreed to the amendment.

A short discussion followed.

The following Commissioners were appointed to the Ad Hoc Committee: Mr. Cox, Ms. Russell, Mr. Zimmerman, and Mr. Pierce. No objection was heard to the appointees on the Committee. No objection was heard to Mr. Zimmerman's motion which now read as follows: "I move that the Chairman appoint three Commissioners as an Ad Hoc Committee to provide a preliminary design assessment of a suspended mode of transit such as, but not limited to, skyshuttle.

Further, the Ad Hoc Committee will report to the FRC on what expenses would be appropriate in fulfilling their task.

FINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Mr. Russ presented the following recommendations that were made at the meeting of August 10:

o ARTICLE 4.5 SPECIAL RESERVE ALLOCATION

Consistent with the Service Coordination Committee recommendations:

- Approve allocation of the Article 4.5 reserve funds to the following eligible applicants:

Beverly Hills	\$ 36,750
East San Gabriel Valley Consortium	64,750
Whittier	73,500
Total	<u>\$175,000</u>

These allocations are contingent upon compliance with specific recommendations contained in Appendix A of the report that was attached to the Commission agenda.

- Allocate the balance of \$205,409 which was held in reserve pending resolution of service coordination and duplication problems as follows:

East San Gabriel Valley Consortium	\$ 39,147
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Mid Valley/El Monte	166,262
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Total	\$ 205,409
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STIP APPEALS

- o That the LACTC, at the August 14, 1981 CTC STIP Appeals Hearing to recommend that FY 1981-82 of the 1981 STIP retain the \$2.55 million for Route 2 Railroad Right-of-Way in order to not delay the progress of these high priority projects.
- o If the CTC determines that it is necessary to cut Los Angeles County projects in order to retain funding for Route 2 and the Century Freeway, lower priority planting and soundwall and ramp metering projects should be considered.
- o That the LACTC write a letter to Governor Brown emphasizing the importance of our local TIP priorities, in particular the high priority of Route 2 project.

DEL AMO BOULEVARD PROJECT

- o That the LACTC continue to request that the FAU Policy Committee hear a presentation by the City of Carson regarding their Del Amo Blvd. overcrossing project in the near future.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- o Heard a report from Caltrans on the status of Route 30 Foothill Freeway Right-of-Way Acquisition Program.
- o Received a staff report on estimated decrease in UMTA Section 5 operating funds as a result of a change in formula split and urged staff to continue its efforts to maximize funding available through this process.

Mr. Russ moved for approval of the FRC suggested recommendations and was seconded by Mr. Geoghegan.

Mr. Tweedt requested that the Chairman write to Administrator Barnhart expressing appreciation for the Century Freeway compromise. Chairman Rubley will also write a letter of thanks to Congressman Glenn Anderson.

Mr. Tweedt also requested that the FRC review the STIP again to make sure that the State does not pull out its share of funding toward the Century Freeway.

Mr. Bryan Allen informed the Commissioners that some land would be going to auction that is presently being held by the Department of Water and Power. The land is pertinent to the Glendale Corridor identified in Proposition A. It was his suggestion that the Commission see what they can do to hold off the selling of the land until a later date.

Mr. Russ made a motion that the Commission contact the Department to request a deferral of the sale of the property. Ms. Russell seconded the motion. There was no objection to the motion.

The Committee report was adopted without objection.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

Mr. Szabo reviewed the following items that were reviewed at the meeting held on August 12:

AB 2231 (Berman). This bill is sponsored by the Commission to implement Prop. A. It has come to the committee's attention that the Supreme Court may not hear the case until as late as November with a decision in January. It is now the recommendation of the Committee to pursue the bill to its fullest. It is coming up for the Assembly Floor vote on August 13. Indications are that it is about 5 votes short of the necessary two-thirds majority. If it is successful, it will be forwarded to the Senate.

Mr. Szabo moved that the staff and all interested parties pursue the bill to its fullest to try and insure its passage. Mr. Russ seconded Mr. Szabo's motion.

A short question and answer period followed. No objection was heard to the motion.

AB 1176(Ingalls). The suggested amendments to the author were not accepted; however, other amendments have been accepted which makes the legislation no longer objectionable. The recommendation is to support the bill with the new amendments.

AB 1623 (Martinez). This would authorize Caltrans to construct a freeway without a freeway agreement. The bill has passed the Assembly and will go before the Senate Transportation Committee on August 18. The recommendation is to continue to support this legislation.

AB 2223(Ivers). This bill is similar to AB 1623 but would allow the construction of the freeway on a segmented basis. In essence, it would allow South Pasadena to veto any freeway being built within the city boundaries. There was no recommendation of position until the final disposition of AB 1623 is known.

SB 33 (Presley). This bill is the annual vehicle inspection and maintenance bill. The bill failed Senate passage but is up for reconsideration on August 13.

SB 215 (Foran). This bill would increase the State gallonage tax on gas to 9¢. One of the key features of the legislation is that it would move the spillover money from the sales taxes on gas from the State general fund to transportation only uses. This has caused some opposition to the bill.

The ridesharing bills are proceeding through the various Assembly and Senate committees.

Mr. Szabo also mentioned the testimony that will be given by Chairman Rubley on August 14, in Long Beach at an Assembly Transportation hearing to examine the potential transit uses of the former Pacific Electric right-of-way in the area.

Also, Wendell Cox will be testifying on August 17, before the Senate Transportation Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works in Seattle, Washington.

The House Appropriations Committee allocated to the Section 3 budget for FY 1981-82 at \$1.8 billion. This leaves intact the County's four-year program for the purchase of buses and construction of additional maintenance facilities. The Section 3 program also includes \$16 million for the preliminary engineering of the Wilshire Subway.

Mr. Szabo asked Mr. Jacobs if it would be possible that the \$13.5 million that had been approved for the DPM would be available to make up the difference between the full cost for the Wilshire preliminary engineering and \$16 million included in the House Appropriations bill. Mr. Jacobs explained that UMTA is currently working with the DPM staff on this issue. Mr. Jacobs further stated that there are a number of ways to handle the money, and they will continue to work with the City of Los Angeles and keep the Commission informed as to exactly how much will be left.

Mr. Jacobs also suggested that briefings be set up for the RTD to avoid some of the pitfalls that the DPM experienced.

A short discussion followed the presentation. In it, Mr. Richmond commented on the importance of Commission members working in support of SB 215.

SERVICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Cox presented the following items from the August 7 meeting:

o Paratransit Subcommittee Formation Process

Recommend approval of the procedures in the report submitted to the Commission with the following amendments:

- The members of the Subcommittee shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission.
- The Subcommittee shall be evaluated after one year.
- Term of office shall be two years; initially, representatives of the even numbered subareas will serve a one year term.
- Up to five additional members can be added to the Subcommittee.

o Caltrans Draft State Bus Plan

Recommend transmittal of the comments listed in the report attached to the Commission agenda and emphatically stress objection to any measure by Caltrans that would siphon funds from existing State Funding sources such as SB 325 Transportation Development Act and SB 620 State Transit Assistance Fund. Furthermore, Caltrans should be urged to proceed with caution in the establishment of a new transit subsidy program.

o Interim Federal Transit Accessibility Requirements

Received and filed a report on the Federal DOT's final interim rule on transit accessibility which no longer requires fixed-route buses to be equipped with wheelchair lifts as the sole means of compliance. Commission staff will report on the recommendations of the Bus Operators Subcommittee and the Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Advisory Council which are currently reviewing the interim rule.

Mr. Cox moved for approval of the Service Coordination report. Mr. Szabo seconded Mr. Cox's motion.

Mr. Tweedt spoke in opposition of the motion because of the selection process of the Paratransit Subcommittee and the appeal process. Another concern he expressed was that much of the data

was based on the Carter-Goble report which has not been submitted to the Commission for final approval. Mr. Tweedt then offered the following substitute motion: that the Paratransit Subcommittee formation process be sent back for restudy, especially for the nomination procedures.

Mr. Mitchell Rouse, President of the United Checker Cab and South Bay Yellow Cab, spoke in favor of Mr. Tweedt's motion and requested that Commission staff study how the committee might be weighted more technically and not to make it such a "user" group.

A short discussion followed the presentation. Mr. Richmond summarized how the staff recommendation had evolved into its present form over the last eight months and how much staff time had been put into this effort.

Mr. Szabo then withdrew his second to Mr. Cox's motion. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Cox moved for approval of the items other than the Paratransit Subcommittee from the Service Coordination Committee report. Mr. Tweedt seconded Mr. Cox's motion. Mr. Pierce and Mr. Zimmerman registered objection to deferral of action on the Paratransit Subcommittee.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Richmond introduced Mr. Paul Taylor who will be joining Commission staff as the Deputy Executive Director for Programming and Fiscal Analysis.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Cox mentioned the possibility of applying a modified version of the Transit Coordination and Service Program to transit and paratransit operators not now included in it. Mr. Cox made a motion to request staff to report back to the SCC on the possibilities of establishing such a program. Mr. Russ seconded Mr. Cox's motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Russ commended staff on what an excellent job they did with the coordination of the 91-11 groundbreaking program.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS:

Notice of meetings was received and filed. The next full Commission meeting will be September 9, at the Department of Water and Power.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



RICK RICHMOND
Executive Director

RR:pae