



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

MINUTES

September 9, 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
Supervisor Kenneth Hahn
Councilwoman Pat Russell
Mayor Ed Russ
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
Peter Tweedt, alternate to Supervisor Schabarum
Ray Remy, alternate to Mayor Bradley
Heinz Heckerth, ex-officio for the State of California

Staff members in attendance were:

Rick Richmond, Executive Director
Ronald Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel
Kathy Torigoe, Executive Secretary
Phyllis Eder, Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Cox moved for approval of the minutes of the August 12, 1981 meeting. Mr. Tweedt requested that the minutes be amended to show that he was in attendance. Motion carried as amended.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Mr. Rubley appointed Mr. Ted Pierce to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

Mr. Rubley introduced Mr. Carroll Carter, Publisher of Mass Transit Magazine. Mr. Carter invited the Commissioners' interest and participation in the Urban Mass Transit Show and Conference scheduled for April 5-8, 1982 at the Convention Center.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Review Committee:

Mr. Russ explained that the committee's next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 1981.

Intergovernmental Relations Committee:

Mr. Remy reviewed the following recommended actions from the meeting of September 8, 1981:

- o AB 2231 (Berman). Support amendments which:
 - Make the LACTC the principal agency responsible to improve and coordinate the county's public mass rapid transportation programs.
 - Make the $\frac{1}{2}\%$ sales tax effective only until the date that a final court determination is made which upholds the sales tax approved by the voters.
- o AB 1623 (Martinez). The current amendments to the bill include:
 - Require the State Transportation Commission to readopt a route location for the Long Beach Freeway gap closure. Language included in this amendment would result in a Westerly Corridor being adopted.

The bill is out of Senate Finance and Senate Transportation it is currently waiting to be heard before the Senate Floor. As it currently stands, opposition to the bill is recommended. Ms. Russell moved to reaffirm opposition to the bill as it currently stands. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried with Mr. Remy abstaining.

- o AB 1176 (Ingalls). Support amendments which:
 - Require the State Commission to adopt, as part of the STIP, a list of supplementary projects outside the 5-year STIP in which Caltrans would be required to do engineering work.
- o SB 572 (Mills). Support amendments which:
 - Extend the Community Transit Service Program (Article 4.5) six months beyond the 1982-83 repeal date.
- o SB 215 (Foran). Passed the Assembly Ways and Means Committee on a 17-3 vote. During the Ways and Means Committee hearing, Assemblywoman Waters included an amendment requiring the SB 215 funds be subject to minority business enterprise requirements. Senator Foran has included the minority enterprise amendment in SB 411 which is currently on the Assembly Floor.

It was requested that if the bill should pass, that the Chairman send a letter of support to the Governor urging his signature. Since the bill requires either the Board of Supervisors or several separate cities to approve the additional gas tax increase, it is also requested that the Chairman send a letter to the County Board of Supervisors and to each of the cities requesting that they take the necessary steps to enact the bill.

Mr. Remy moved for approval of the recommended actions of the Committee. Ms. Russell seconded. After a short discussion, the committee report was adopted. Mr. Tweedt recorded his opposition to the support of SB 215.

Mr. Rubley mentioned that he had received a letter from Assemblyman Bruce Young with regards to the hearings that had been held in Long Beach regarding the Pacific Electric right-of-way between Los Angeles and Long Beach. Mr. Rubley also mentioned the following motion that Supervisor Hahn had made and was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on September 8:

I move that the Board of Supervisors request the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission to update the plans for having a light rail system from Long Beach and San Pedro Harbors to downtown Los Angeles along the old Pacific Electric Right-of-Way.

Service Coordination Committee:

Mr. Cox reported on the recommendation with respect to the establishment of a Paratransit Operations Subcommittee which would be a subcommittee to the Technical Advisory Committee. It is now being recommended that rather than an elected process, an appointed process be used. The following features are also part of the committee recommendation:

I. Selection Process

- A. Members shall be appointed by the Commission.
- B. A membership selection committee of the Commission should be named by the Chairman.
- C. Announcements will be made to solicit organizational profiles for review by the membership selection committee.

II. Six Subregions To Be Represented

- A. South Bay
- B. Southeast Los Angeles County
- C. Central Area to Santa Monica
- D. San Fernando Valley
- E. San Gabriel Valley
- F. North County

III. Membership Groups

The membership group shall consist of the following:

Paratransit providers (7 members), lead agencies (5 members), social service agencies (5 members), at large (3 members). Out of the lead agencies and the social service agencies, at least one member will represent each of the six subregions. Alternates will also be available in each of the categories up to a maximum of 2 per category. The number of private for-profit paratransit providers would be limited to three.

After a period of one year, the subcommittee will be reviewed by the Commission to see whether there might be a necessity to make changes.

Mr. Cox also reported that the U.S. Department of Transportation is requiring that comments be submitted by September 18 on the interim final rules for Section 504 concerning transit accessibility for elderly and handicapped persons. The committee recommends the Commission support a concept of a local option policy, so long as minimum service standards, established by the Commission, are met.

Mr. Cox moved for approval of the recommendations and was seconded by Ms. Russell.

Councilman Harold Croys from the City of Lomita and Mr. Bob Hildebrand from the City of Torrance requested that the Paratransit Subcommittee item be held over for one meeting so that they might be able to review and evaluate the new proposal. Mr. Robert Clark spoke in favor of the subcommittee recommendation. Mr. Russ also requested that the decision be held off for two more weeks. A discussion followed.

Mr. Russ made a substitute motion that would delay the decision of approval of the Committee until the next full Commission meeting on September 23 so that all interested parties might submit comments on the subcommittee formation. Mr. Reeves seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Lou Nau, a member of the Elderly and Handicapped Advisory Council spoke on the Section 504 issue. He stressed that local handicapped persons and organizations are not in favor of the Interim Rules.

Mr. Sam Olivito spoke on behalf of the SCRTD Board of Directors. He stressed that the District has maintained full accessible buses, but the Board does agree with the local option policy.

Mr. Bob Hildebrand from the City of Torrance also reiterated support for the staff's recommendation.

Mr. Cox also mentioned that the Citizens Advisory Committee reviewed the staff recommendation and is in concurrence with the position that was already stated.

Mr. Cox moved for adoption of the Committee report with respect to the 504 Regulations. Mr. Russ seconded the motion. Mr. Geoghegan spoke in opposition to the motion. A short discussion followed. The motion carried with Mr. Geoghegan opposed.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HAHN

Mr. Hahn discussed the motion that was passed by the Board of Supervisors on September 8 regarding the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way from Long Beach/San Pedro to Los Angeles. Mr. Hahn moved that Chairman Rubley appoint a special task force to advance a light rail project on the the Los Angeles-Long Beach Right-Of-Way. Mr. Szabo seconded the motion. Mr. Hahn requested that all aspects be included in developing this specific route.

Mr. Remy expressed concern for appointing a task force to investigate the one specific corridor. He agreed that the Long Beach corridor was a high priority, but did not feel the Pacific Electric right-of-way should be the exclusive option.

Mr. Pierce agreed with Mr. Remy and also felt that the Commission should not stick with just one line; i.e. that other alternatives should be investigated.

Mr. Rubley restated the motion that was made by Supervisor Hahn before the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Remy expressed his objection to investigating exclusively the Pacific Electric right-of-way.

Mr. Hahn stated that the P.E. right-of-way is virtually intact and seems to be the most feasible and practical route available.

Mr. Geoghegan spoke in support of Mr. Hahn's motion and felt that what Mr. Hahn was suggesting could be done on a quick basis because it is immediately available and therefore deserves priority treatment. He felt that the overall concerns of the entire county could be looked at at the same time.

Mr. Cox asked that the motion be clarified.

Mr. Hahn stated that the motion was to get updated plans for the Los Angeles-Long Beach line and have the Chairman appoint a special task force to see that the plans are developed and reported back to the Commission.

Mr. Cox expressed concern about the appointment of multiple task forces. Mr. Cox suggested that perhaps the Ad Hoc Committee that is to investigate "new technology" along with routes and modes could also investigate possible light rail corridors,

Mr. Pierce questioned if it would be possible to postpone the vote on the motion until after the staff recommendation which deals with the Long Beach along with other possible lines.

STAFF PRESENTATION ON RAPID TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

Mr. Richmond reviewed what the Commission has done in the past in support of rapid transit including a commitment of up to \$100 million from local resources for rapid transit, and legislation which requires maximum allocation of Prop. 5 funding. Staff recommends investigating a potential low cost rapid transit system which could be complementary to the proposed Wilshire Starter Line, and would not be dependent on federal funds.

It is suggested that an investigation as to what routes are available, prioritizing on the basis of feasibility, how many people would use it and what the cost is could possibly be done by the Ad Hoc Committee formed to investigate new technologies. They could take a look at technology not only in the abstract, but applied to specific routes.

Mr. Richmond reviewed specific corridors, and suggested that staff return with the specifics of how the staff would continue on a plan. It is proposed to go through both the Finance Review Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee that has already been established.

A short discussion followed Mr. Richmond's presentation. Mr. Cox proposed that the Commission review the staff report and return in a period of 30 days, and then appoint the task force if it is necessary. The purpose of the task force should not be limited to the study of one line, but should be directed toward the provision of rapid transit in Los Angeles County.

The question was raised by Mr. Szabo if the Chairman was going to appoint a new committee. Mr. Richmond stated that it was staff's recommendation to use the Ad Hoc Committee that has already been developed.

Mr. Richmond also stated that under the staff's report, it would be possible to study the Willowbrook Line first, and then study the other corridors so that it would be possible to report periodically. Mr. Richmond said that staff will report back on the specifics of how the lines will be looked at. Mr. Richmond estimates it to be a three month effort for all the lines in the county to be accounted for.

The Commission endorsed Mr. Hahn's motion and the general approach as outlined by Mr. Richmond.

PRESENTATION BY CALTRANS ON CENTURY FREEWAY AND USE OF LIGHT RAIL

Mr. Heckeroth reviewed the feasibility studies that are being done by Caltrans regarding the P.E. right-of-way and railroad corridors in the district. Mr. Heckeroth also informed the Commissioners that under Caltrans' study using the Willowbrook/Wilmington Line as proposed under Supervisor Hahn motion, the predict ridership would be 15,000 per day and at a cost of 150 million. With railroad's cooperation this corridor could effectively be using light rail by 1986.

Mr. Heckeroth reviewed other corridors that have been studied. There is currently a feasibility study that is being done by Caltrans and upon completion will be submitted to staff regarding the Long Beach corridor. According to Caltrans study, the most feasible line as a starter line for light rail is the Wilmington Line.

Mr. Heckeroth reviewed also proposed commuter lines. A discussion followed with regards to possible headways, completion dates, and possible numbers of cars to be used.

Mr. Heckeroth then reviewed the proposed Century Freeway. In the consent decree, there is a provision that the FHWA will fund a bus/HOV lanes, or the cost can be contributed to initial light rail construction. It would also be possible to build bus/HOV with possible rail conversion at a later date.

Concurrence with local communities, through revised freeway agreements, is still necessary for local interchanges.

Completion of the freeway is scheduled for 1990. A decision regarding either light rail line or bus/HOV lanes similar to that of El Monte will have to be made in the near future.

A short discussion followed Mr. Heckeroth's presentation.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Richmond introduced Nancy Whelan, a new staff member, who is the Transportation Management Assistant.

Mr. Richmond informed the Commissioners that a Superior Court Judge did order the State Board of Equalization to begin collecting the ½¢ sales tax. The decision is expected to be appealed by the State, which could delay the collection date. The Commission attorneys are seeking Board collection of the tax at the earliest possible date. No date has been set by the Supreme Court for a hearing on the basic question of the constitutionality of the November vote.

Supervisor Hahn also mentioned that he had sent a letter to the Supreme Court in support of an early court date to hear the Prop. A case.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cox mentioned that request had been received from Commuter Computer requesting the Commission's support for their resolution to recognize October 6 as "Share a Ride Day." Mr. Cox moved, and was seconded by Ms. Russell to support the resolution. There was no objection.

Mr. Russ also mentioned that the Century Freeway Corridor Cities would not like Caltrans to sell already acquired Century Freeway right-of-way. Mr. Russ moved, seconded by Mr. Geoghegan, to ask the FHWA and Caltrans not to take any action to give up the right-of-way until the Commission has studied it.

Mr. Geoghegan also commended staff for their work in dealing with the California Transportation Commission on the issue of the widening of the 101 Freeway and the 405 Soundwall. Mr. Geoghegan moved, seconded by Ms. Russell, to send a letter of thanks to the California Transportation Commission. There was no objection.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Notice of meetings was received and filed. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 23 at the Department of Water and Power.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


RICK RICHMOND
Executive Director

RR:pae