



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

MINUTES

September 23, 1981

The regular Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Russ Rubley at 1:20 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

Chairman Russ Rubley
Supervisor Kenneth Hahn
Councilwoman Pat Russell
Councilman John Zimmerman
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 Heckeroth, ex-officio member for the State of California

Staff members in attendance were:

Rick Richmond, Executive Director
Ron 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 September 9, 1981 meeting. Mr. Geoghegan seconded the motion. No objection was heard.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Mr. Rubley informed the Commissioners that an Executive Session would be held at the end of the meeting to discuss Proposition A and personnel matters regarding the Executive Director.

REPORT FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RAPID TRANSIT:

Mr. Zimmerman reported on the following items that were discussed at the meeting on September 14:

- o That staff be directed to provide a summary of available literature dealing with aerial cable-supported transit technology.
- o A motion was made by Mr. Cox and passed unanimously that the scope of the committee be expanded to conduct and coordinate route analyses with technology analyses, with initial emphasis on the Long Beach to downtown Los Angeles corridor.

A motion was made by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Cox, to approve the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. No objection was heard to the motion.

REPORT FROM CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Mr. Pat Drohan, Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee, spoke on behalf of the Committee in support of staff's recommendation to compare light rail routes, leading to a decision early next year.

PROPOSED MOTION:

With no objection, Mr. Rubley moved for approval by the Commission the attached motion (Exhibit A). Mr. Szabo seconded the motion.

Mr. Hahn spoke on support of the motion, observing that this could be a momentous occasion in the history of Los Angeles.

Messrs. Pierce, Remy, Szabo, Geoghegan and Cox all spoke in favor of the motion. Mr. Zimmerman expressed concern that when the line starts, it was essential to implement the most up-to-date technology and equipment possible. Mr. Cox requested that a timetable be prepared with stated objectives to achieve specific goals by certain times.

Mr. Remy stressed the Olympic Committee is only working with what transit is available now. He also agreed it would be nice if the route were completed in time of the 1984 Olympics.

A roll call vote on the motion was taken:

AYES: Mr. Tweedt, Mr. Hahn, Mr. Geoghegan, Mr. Szabo, Mr. Pierce, Mr. Remy, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Cox, Mr. Rubley

NOES: None

Motion passed on a 9-0 vote.

Mr. Rubley informed the Commissioners that the motion would be forwarded to the Ad Hoc Committee, and any other members who wished to serve should contact staff. Messrs. Szabo and Heckerth expressed interest to serve on the Committee.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Mr. Richmond recommended that the following actions be taken immediately:

1. Immediate action steps for a light rail project from Los Angeles to Long Beach. This would involve both consultant and Commission staff to begin work the first part of October.
2. Evaluation of corridors--routes, modes, and technology. This review of other rapid transit corridors should be completed at the same time as the initial work on the L.A.-Long Beach project. Engaging a single multi-disciplined consultant will be the key to commencing this effort.

The staff recommends the Commission approve the following:

- o Adopt a set of basic principles for a near-term rapid transit project. These are similar to what San Diego adopted prior to the implementation of their light rail line.
- o Initiate immediate action steps for a project from L.A.-Long Beach line by:
 - authorizing the Executive Director to engage a consultant on railroad matters at a cost not to exceed \$10,000;
 - authorizing the Executive Director to issue a Request for Qualifications from which the Commission may select a consultant to complete technical evaluation of the project at an estimated cost of \$25,000;
 - ask the cities of Long Beach and Los Angeles to work with Commission staff in defining acceptable ways of routing the project through their respective central business districts;
 - ask Caltrans to update its evaluation of costs and engineering feasibility based on the three previous items.
- o Initiate a brief evaluation of other rapid transit opportunities by authorizing the Executive Director to issue a Request for Qualifications, from which the Commission may select a consultant for technical analysis of routes and mode technology at an estimated cost of \$65,000.

- o Establish a single committee of the Commission to monitor and provide any necessary policy direction of both the L.A.-Long Beach and countywide analyses.
- o Establish a committee of executive directors to carry out the policy direction of the Commission on these analyses. The committee would consist of:

LACTC Executive Director
SCRTD General Manager
Caltrans District Director
SCAG Executive Director

A discussion followed Mr. Richmond's presentation. Mr. Heckeroth requested that Caltrans be able to present, through staff, what they can do in terms of providing material for decision-making concurrent with a preparation of a Request for Proposal.

Mr. Remy requested that final approval for the item costing \$65,000 be withheld until it is known exactly how much information may be received from other agencies.

Mr. Hahn moved that the recommendation of staff be approved. Mr. Geoghegan seconded the motion. Mr. Cox moved that the name of the Ad Hoc Aerial Transit Committee be changed to Ad Hoc Rapid Transit Committee. Mr. Szabo seconded Mr. Cox's motion. No objection was heard to the motions.

FINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Russ presented the following items that were recommended for approval at the Finance Review Committee meeting on September 21, 1981.

- o Approve the staff recommendation to recall \$15,000 allocated to Pasadena in FY 1978-79 for bike and ride programs;
- o Approve staff recommendation to allocate \$1,419,474 in TDA Article 3 Regional Bikeway Funds for FY 1981-82. This includes \$15,000 to be reserved for the City of Rolling Hills Estates' commuter bike lane projects;
- o Approve staff recommendation to adopt a resolution requesting Caltrans to retain Century Freeway right-of-way presently owned;
- o Recommend that the Commission ask Governor Brown to reconsider California's distribution of state and local projects for the 4th quarter Federal Highway Obligational Authority;

- o Recommend that the Commission immediately authorize the County Auditor to invest the \$12,950,000 of rapid transit set-aside in long-term, high-yield investments in accordance with our anticipated drawdown schedule;
- o Recommend that Commission cancel our existing dental insurance policy with Travelers Insurance Company and contract with Occidental Life Insurance Company to provide dental benefits to employees and their dependents effective October 1, 1981;
- o Recommend approval of a lease for an additional Commission vehicle;
- o Approve reprogramming of Santa Monica TDA reserves and Gardena STA allocation;
- o Recommend addition of the Route 60 Larchmont Tract soundwall to the LACTC Major State Highway Projects Shelf List.

The FRC recommendations were approved as reported by Mr. Russ.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Remy expressed appreciation to staff on behalf of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee. He felt that the Commission's interests were made known in Sacramento and Washington because of staff's presence.

Mr. Remy informed the Commissioners that SB 215 (Foran) passed the legislature and has been signed by the Governor. It will go into effect on January 1, 1983. The County Board of Supervisors had taken action to ratify the tax, as had Orange and San Diego Counties.

The L.A. County Transportation Commission will be responsible for allocating the 50% spillover funds that are returned. The allocation formula is favorable to Southern California.

Other bills that were mentioned included:

- o AB 2231 (Berman) - still on the Assembly Floor;
- o AB 1460 (Young) - there is a problem of the definition of "acquire" and "Union Station".

With the exception of SB 321 (Alquist), the rideshare bills will have to come back up in January.

SERVICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Cox moved for approval of the Service Coordination Committee Report concerning the formation of a Paratransit Operations Subcommittee.

Mr. Russ requested, on behalf of the South Bay Cities, that the Commission not be committed to accept any recommendations on the membership on the Paratransit Subcommittee.

Mr. Cox requested that the process proposed by South Bay Cities be limited to the lead agencies category. It would increase the lead agencies from five to six.

Councilman Harold Croyts, City of Lomita, agreed with Mr. Russ. One concern expressed by Mr. Croyts was the representation of private-for-profit groups and their voting as to how monies would be spent.

Mr. Bob Hildebrand, City of Torrance, was in favor of Mr. Russ' request and also suggested that the Commission staff classify all paratransit organizations into one of the subgroups.

Mrs. Rene Wilson from the Los Angeles County Paratransit Coalition spoke in favor of Mr. Russ' request.

Mr. Mitchell Rouse of United Checker Co. spoke against only having three seats of 20 as representative of the private sector. He felt it to be arbitrary and clearly discriminatory.

Mr. Bob Clark of Medi-Ride, another private-for-profit operator, spoke on behalf of the necessity for a private-for-profit vote and supported any SCC recommendation.

Mr. Dan Pezol, East San Gabriel Valley Consortium, spoke in favor of the South Bay's proposal.

A short discussion followed.

Mr. Cox moved to approve the Service Coordination Committee's recommendation, but amended his motion to increase Category B from 5 to 6 and the adoption of the South Bay Cities' proposed process with respect to Category B. Mr. Pierce seconded Mr. Cox's motion as amended. No objection was heard to the motion.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Richmond had no items to report on at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Remy briefed the Commissioners on his meeting with Mr. Arthur Teele and Secretary Drew Lewis during the past week. It was clarified that the Downtown People Mover project had been suspended, not phased out. Mr. Remy explained that the purpose of the meeting was to get Federal funds for the construction of a tunnel through a building on Bunker Hill. Two of the three tunnels have been completed. The third building is not under construction and was negotiated with the understanding that the DPM would pay for a tunnel through the center of the building. It was the hope to get aid from the Federal government to keep the right-of-way no matter what system would eventually go through it. Secretary Lewis and Mr. Teele felt this was reasonable, provided that the Commission could show proof that it was listed on the Regional TIP and the local TIP.

Mr. Remy moved that the Commission confirm that the Downtown People Mover is in the TIP and that the tunnel is part of the project. (Exhibit B). He also suggested that the possible amendment of the TIP to reflect the specific tunnel construction in question be referred to the appropriate committee. Mr. Geoghegan seconded the motion. There was no objection.

Mr. Robert Swan, Public Transit Catalyst, spoke against the use of light rail in Los Angeles County if downtown service is to be done as it is in San Diego.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Members recessed into an Executive Session at 3:00 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 3:20 p.m.

PROPOSITION A LITIGATION

Mr. Russ moved that the Commission file contempt of court actions against the State Board of Equalization for their failure to move expeditiously to collect the 1/2% transit sales tax. Mr. Szabo seconded the motion which passed without objection.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Notice of meetings was received and filed. The next full Commission meeting will be October 14 at Burbank City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


RICK RICHMOND
Executive Director