



Los Angeles County
Transportation
Commission
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Los Angeles
California 90013
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LACTC MINUTES

July 25, 1984

The regular Commission meeting was called to order by Vice Chairwoman Bacharach at 2:50 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room at the Hall of Administration.

Members in attendance were:

Mayor Jacki Bacharach
Councilmember Christine E. Reed
Councilman Ernie Kell
Wendell Cox
Blake Sanborn, alternate to Supervisor Schabarum
Walter King, alternate to Supervisor Hahn
Robert Geoghegan, alternate to Supervisor Edelman
Barna Szabo, alternate to Supervisor Dana
Ted Pierce, alternate to Supervisor Antonovich
Heinz Heckeroth, Ex-Officio for State of California

Staff members in attendance were:

Paul C. Taylor, Acting Executive Director
Ronald L. Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel
Annette Honda, Secretary
Rebecca Elisarraraz, Administrative Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of July 11, 1984 were unanimously approved, as submitted.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REMARKS

Mrs. Bacharach congratulated Ernie Kell on his recent election as the new mayor of the City of Long Beach.

COMMITTEE REPORTSFINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Sanborn reported on the FRC's meeting of July 23. The committee's recommendations for Commission's approval are as follows:

Transit Items

Santa Monica Agreement on TDA Reserve

- o Endorse the staff recommendation to approve Memorandum of Understanding with Santa Monica to establish a TDA reserve for the planning, design and construction of rail projects within the City.

Mr. Sanborn moved for approval; seconded by Mr. Geoghegan. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Request from Arcadia for Additional Service Hours

- o Defer action on the staff recommendation, and request staff to review additional information presented by the City of Arcadia and report back at the August 13 FRC meeting.

FY 1984-85 Transit TIP Amendment for Century Freeway Rail Transit

- o Approve the staff recommendation to amend the FY 1984-85 Transit TIP to include the Century Freeway rail transit project.

Mr. Sanborn moved for approval; seconded by Mrs. Reed. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Grant Contract with SCRTD Covering the Metro Rail Project

Defer action on this item, and

- o Request staff to have prepared a description of LACTC's risks and liabilities under the contract and report back to the FRC.
- o Request that the RTD Board of Directors approve the design commitments made by the General Manager of RTD.

Mr. Sanborn moved for approval; seconded by Mrs. Reed. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Administrative Items

Proposed Lease for Office Space

- o Approve the staff recommendation to execute a lease for office space and relocate LACTC staff to the Garfield Building by October, 1984.

Mr. Sanborn moved for approval; seconded by Mr. Szabo. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Policy on Reimbursement of Expenses for New Employees Relocating to the Los Angeles Area

- o Request staff to revise the reimbursement policy as discussed by the Committee and report back.

Proposed RFP for Data Processing Consultant

- o Approve the RFP and authorize staff to solicit proposals.

Mr. Sanborn moved for approval; seconded by Mrs. Reed. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

RAPID TRANSIT/RAIL CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES

RAIL CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Bacharach reported on the RCC's meeting of July 25. The committee's recommendations for Commission's approval are as follows:

In establishing the Rail Construction Committee, the Commission expressed a desire that the Committee would resolve the most common decisions pertaining to the project. These include budget line items, solicitations for large contracts and award of medium-size contracts, and changes to existing contracts.

- o A report on the public hearings held in June on the draft Environmental Impact Report was provided to the Committee by staff. A large number of issues were raised in the course of public and government agency commentary on the EIR. The issues raised will need to be addressed in the project's Final Environmental Impact Report, which will be released, based on the Committee's recommended direction to staff, either in November 1984 or February 1985, depending of whether a supplemental EIR is prepared.

In the City of Long Beach, alternatives using Atlantic Avenue have been criticized from all quarters. The Commission has been requested to consider some additional alternatives, including two-way tracks on Long Beach Boulevard, which the City Council had previously eliminated from consideration. On July 24, Mayor Ernie Kell held an additional public meeting at which project staff explained the various aspects of suggested new alternatives, and solicited public comments on them. The principal issue is whether the suggested new alternatives warrant the delay and expense involved in preparing a supplemental draft EIR before moving to recommend a preferred alternative in Long Beach.

- o Based on Mayor Kell's and staff's reports to the Committee, we have directed staff in preparation of the project's Final EIR to include studies of additional stations along the so-called River Route, as well as a possible short aerial alignment for that route into downtown Long Beach. However, we find that requests for a supplemental EIR for a Long Beach Boulevard two-way alternative may not be supportable, because there may be alternatives in the original EIR that result in less adverse impacts. We also do not find merit for a city staff request for study of a subway alignment from the River Route into downtown Long Beach. Finally, we do feel that the Final EIR can include study of a spur from the River Route along the Southern Pacific East Long Beach branch, but only as a "possible future extension," i.e., not as part of the initial project.

The Committee intends to determine before the Commission's August 15 meeting whether or not a supplemental EIR should be prepared for the project. This decision will be based on whether the Southern Pacific can consider an additional alternative in the project's mid-corridor for full relocation of their ports-related trains away from the light rail route, and on whether the River Route modification in Long Beach for a short aerial segment involves significant new environmental impacts, and whether CEQA criteria call for inclusion of a Long Beach Boulevard alternative for Long Beach. The Committee intends to decide this question prior to the next Commission meeting.

- o Staff presented a budget status report on the two phases of the project currently underway: project development (leading up to environmental clearance) and mobilization for design (authorized on March 26, 1984, as the transition from project development to design and construction).

The Committee deferred action on this item until the next meeting.

- o The project development budget revision just mentioned includes execution of Amendment No. 3 to the Commission's contract of March 9, 1983 with Parsons Brinckerhoff/Kaiser Engineers for project development/EIR services, increasing the contract amount by \$284,484 and authorization to negotiate an Amendment No. 4 to the PB/KE contract, to provide for completion of project development/EIR services.

Mrs. Bacharach moved to amend the Parsons Brinckerhoff contract including Amendment No. 3 in the amount of \$284,484; seconded by Mr. King. Hearing no comment, motion was carried.

- o On April 11, 1984, the Commission authorized the first seven staff positions for Program Management of design/construction of the project. At this time, to keep up the pace of the project's mobilization as intended, the Committee has acted to recommend filling the remaining staff positions of the project office in conjunction with the general engineering consultant negotiations, and commencement of preliminary engineering of the project, as authorized by the Commission on July 11. These positions comprise 13 professional and 3 clerical jobs identified in the staff report. Filling of the jobs will be phased in as the project moves through the environmental clearance process toward initiation of design work.

Public Comment

Mr. Robert Swan spoke regarding Long Beach transportation issues, specifically the Long Beach Boulevard alternative.

Mrs. Bacharach moved for approval of the committee report; seconded by Mr. King. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

RAPID TRANSIT COMMITTEE

Mrs. Bacharach reported on the RTC's meeting of July 25. The Committee's recommendations for Commission's approval are as follows:

The Rapid Transit Committee discussed the work program of LACTC's Rail Development Section for the current fiscal year.

Over the past 18 months, the Commission has taken important steps in establishing an implementation strategy for the Proposition A rail transit system. We have determined priority corridors, adopted representative rail routes within these

corridors and evaluated our financial ability to construct this interim rail network. This process has also been critical in helping the Metro Rail project, Century Freeway and Long Beach-Los Angeles rail transit projects accommodate future rail lines in their designs. In the months ahead, issues related to Metro Rail funding and revenue bonding authorization should be clarified, allowing us to consider possible line section priorities and tentative design and construction schedules for other projects.

At this time, it is important to work on refining certain future rail possibilities, primarily at locations where rail lines come together. These are:

1. how a San Fernando Valley light rail line should approach and integrate with the North Hollywood Metro Rail station;
2. how the Harbor Transitway and Long Beach-Los Angeles line and the Pasadena-Lincoln Heights line should connect through downtown Los Angeles;
3. how the Century Freeway line and the Coast rail line should be tied together in the El Segundo-Airport area; and
4. refinement of the Coast light rail line concept in the area between Marina del Rey and the Airport to provide input to land use decisions currently being made by the County and the City of Los Angeles.

We discussed with staff what it would take to accomplish these refinements; we recommend Commission concurrence in the need and budget for the work, estimated at no more than \$700,000 in staff and consultants.

We recommend that staff be authorized to solicit technical consultant assistance for this effort on the schedule given in the staff report, with specific contracts to be brought to the Commission through the Committee at later dates.

Finally, we have asked the staff to draft a policy and procedures for protecting land that is clearly needed for future rail lines and station areas.

Mrs. Bacharach moved the Committee report for approval; seconded by Mr. King. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

SERVICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Cox reported on the SCC's meeting of July 18. The Committee had the following items for Commission approval:

E&HTAC Representation on TAC

Approve adding a delegate and alternate, appointed from the E&HTAC, to the Technical Advisory Committee membership roster as an ex-officio member.

Support of the CAPH Resolution on Wheelchair Lifts

Approve support of the CAPH Resolution, excluding any endorsement of equipment. The Commission will forward its endorsement and the resolution to all transit operators for consideration.

Mr. Cox moved the Committee's report for approval; seconded by Mr. Szabo.

Mrs. Reed objected to the section of the CAPH Resolution allowing passengers to stand on the wheelchair lifts to board the bus. She said there is no guarantee of safety to the riders and too much liability for the transit operator.

Much discussion followed.

There was a voice vote on the recommendation and with the exception of Mrs. Reed, all were in favor of the recommendation. Motion was carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nomination of Commissioner Cox - Mr. Cox has been nominated to serve as Chairman of APTA's Committee on Governing Boards for the coming year. The election of officers will be held at the annual meeting in Washington in October.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kell mentioned that this will be his last meeting at the Commission. He introduced Councilman Marc Wilder who will replace him as Long Beach's representative on the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Greg Roberts spoke regarding employee's moving expenses and forwarded correspondence documenting criticism of SCRTD's transit police.

Mr. Bryan Allen submitted a letter regarding sales tax revenue.

Mr. Leonard Shapiro, publisher of the LA Observer, spoke regarding the Metro Rail project.

Mr. Robert Swan spoke regarding the Long Beach Boulevard alternative for the Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Mrs. Bacharach indicated that since there will be only one Commission meeting the third week of next month because of the Olympics, she requested that staff poll the members to assure a quorum and also requested that the meeting start at 3 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:45 p.m., the Commission recessed to an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.



PAUL C. TAYLOR
Acting Executive Director

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