

Committee Reports

Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Commissioner Remy reported on the committee's meeting of April 23 at 12 noon. The following recommendations were made:

State Legislation

SB 1505 (Foran): Local option bill which gives the ability of local governments to place a measure on the ballot subject to a 2/3's vote to increase the gasoline tax. This issue was discussed at the recent State League of Cities Board meeting and discussed by other transportation agencies with generally a negative reaction. The general feeling of these groups is that the subject of the state gasoline tax should be addressed at the state level; also, that a local option matter does not address the necessary actions of trying to deal with whether we should or shouldn't increase the gas tax, and finally, that creating this tax would create an inequitable situation between and among counties. The reaction of the committee is to concur with the position of the League of Cities not to support the Foran bill at this point in time and to encourage the Legislature to take a look at the whole question of gas tax increases at the next session, to see if there is a better way of approaching it than the local option issue.

SB 1387 (Foran): This bill repeals the statutory requirement for school districts to provide driver's training; and that funds from this program would be used for highway purposes. The bill has been amended to be voluntary with respect to providing the driver's training program. There is substantial concern as to the effect of removing driver's education and driver's training from the school system. The committee's feeling is to not support Senator Foran's bill to remove the driver's training requirement. The committee was advised that AB 8 would probably remove the mandatory requirement of driver education any way.

ACA 74-AB 2678 (Ingalls): This Commission has supported this bill with amendments which basically is a response to the service station operators/owners initiative which repeals the sales tax on gasoline. The committee's feeling was that if that initiative measure does qualify, the Ingalls' approach is something that probably needs to happen or else it is unlikely we would have continued transportation funding. If, however, the initiative measure does not qualify, the committee feels that they should go back and take a long look at the ACA as well as the companion statute (AB 2678) by Assemblyman Ingalls

as to whether it is really advisable to make a major change in our transportation funding at the state level. The bill, as present, would eliminate Prop. 5, 1429 banking provision, and probably modify the 1246 and 402 process which creates this Commission and the State Commission. While the committee supports with amendments ACA 74 now, if the service station owners' initiative does not qualify in May or early June, the committee will plan to be back before the Commission with an analysis of Assemblyman Ingalls' bill.

AB 2584 (Lancaster): This bill deals with Route 30 and has three provisions: (1) urging a protection of the R/W of Route 30, (2) use a 7-year construction perspective for that particular route in analyzing the funding of the R/W protection and acquisition, and (3) saying that it is a high priority. The committee supports the bill on R/W protection but has some trouble with the 7-year perspective in that Route 30 is not now in the State TIP. It is unlikely that funds will be made available within the 7-year period for construction due to the major shortfall of funds. The committee feels that it may be misleading to the people who vote for it with the 7-year figure in the bill. The committee suggested to the author that he rethink that portion that deals with the 7-year threshold.

Motion was made by Commissioner Remy to approve the committee's recommendations of the abovementioned state bills. Seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. Hearing no objections, motion was unanimously approved.

Half-Cent Sales Tax

Staff has chatted with members of the Legislature and there is some interest but also some feeling of substantial reservation of being associated with a bill that has a tax increase provision to it. There was a suggestion that if such a proposal is to really have credence in Sacramento, the Commission needs to have a meeting with the County delegation. The committee suggests that staff meet with Assemblyman Fenton, delegation chairman, to see if it is possible to arrange a meeting with the County delegation to talk about the 1/2¢ sales tax and also a number of other issues the Commission is involved during the month of May.

Motion was made by Commissioner Zimmerman that staff arrange for the Commission to meet with the Los Angeles County delegation some time in May; seconded by Commissioner Szabo. Hearing no objections, motion was unanimously approved.

Federal Legislation

HR 6417 (Howard): Committee recommends that Commission support this transportation authorization bill. The bill has a number of favorable aspects including the authorization for new starts and authorization level on a 10-year rather than a 5-year current period. It appears to be the best vehicle of the bills before Congress in meeting some of the Commission's legislative goals.

SB 2296 (Williams): While funding is reasonable in this bill, it has some major detrimental aspects relative to Section 5 formula funding. The committee was advised this morning that it could run \$20 to \$30 million reduction in operating assistance for the county. The IRC strongly opposes that portion of SB 2296 that deals with Section 5 formula changes.

Maintenance of Effort: The Administration has proposed that they do not feel that the federal government should be the principal supplier of operating assistance, particularly on those systems which are supported very little by either local or state sources so the Administration has proposed a change to the federal maintenance of effort requirement which the committee supports. The revised MOE would allow for the first time that farebox revenues could be counted in the maintenance of effort calculation. It will generally increase the amount of responsibility at the local level and decrease the amount of federal support. The municipal operators expressed some concern that over time we might get to a point where the maintenance of effort requirement at the federal level could negatively impact our existing bus operators. There was no opposition from SCRTD but some concern. Some operators indicated that no property at this point would be adversely impacted by this new calculation, but as we got further down the line years 1986 and 1987, it could have a detrimental effect. The other side of the issue was that if we do nothing on maintenance of effort, if we keep the status quo, we are likely to see a stronger requirement emerge from Congress. The recommendation of the committee was to support the Administration's proposal on Maintenance of Effort to review it carefully as we see other pieces of legislation in subsequent years to make sure that we are not disadvantaged and to urge that this particular proposal be amended into the suitable House or Senate bills.

The committee also suggested the support of Senator Cranston's effort on the Senate side to assure that there be a restoration of an adequate level of mass transit funding in the Senate's first budget resolution.

Motion was made by Commissioner Remy to approve the committee's recommendation for federal legislation; seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Commissioner Reed expressed her opposition to the Administration's program on Maintenance of Effort. Motion was approved.

Windfall Profits Tax (Prop. 11): Proposition 11 will be on the ballot and the committee recommended that this item be brought before the full Commission for action with a committee recommendation.

Chairman Schabarum indicated that this item will be placed on the Commission's May 14 agenda for discussion and possible action by the full Commission.

HB 6964 (Edgar) National Ridesharing Act of 1980: Mr. Szabo indicated that this bill will make grants on loans available for carpooling and vanpooling programs. The committee urges support of this legislation and the Commission will offer testimony at the upcoming hearing in Washington before the House Public Works and Transportation Committee.

HR 6859 (Gephardt) Commuter Taxpayer Assistance Act of 1980: This bill will encourage the use of public transit by permitting a 5% tax credit to employers who provide their employees with free public transit passes. The committee recommended that there be no position taken at this time.

Corridor Rail Authorization Bill: The committee will monitor this bill to see how it progresses in Congress.

Motion was made by Mr. Szabo to support HB 6964 (Edgar); seconded by Mr. Zimmerman. Hearing no objections, motion was approved.

Status Report on Memoranda of Understanding on Guideway Projects

Copies of a proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Southern California Rapid Transit District were distributed to the Commissioners. Commissioner Rubley reported that this proposed MOU was developed as a follow-up to a 4:00 p.m. Monday meeting with Chairman Schabarum, Commissioners Russ and Rubley and RTD President Neusom, RTD Director Holen and staff members.

Motion was made by Commission Rubley to approve the MOU with SCRTD and forward it to the SCRTD for execution; seconded by Mr. Cox. Hearing no objection, motion was approved. The Chairman indicated that he will send a letter on behalf of the Commission to Tom Neusom, President of the SCRTD Board of Directors, conveying the fact that the Commission has approved the language of the MOU and seeks the SCRTD Board's timely attention to a similar approval at their Board meeting tomorrow.

Status of the I-105 (Century Freeway) Project

Mr. Heinz Heckeroth, District Director of Caltrans, introduced Mr. Keith McKean who gave a brief slide presentation of the Century Freeway project. There was a lengthy discussion whereby both Messrs. Heckeroth and McKean answered questions from the Commissioners.

After a Memorandum of Understanding on the Freeway Transit portion of the project and the STIP are developed, a meeting to discuss this project in more detail will be scheduled for the Commission.

Committee Reports

Finance Review Committee

Commissioner Geoghegan reported on the committee's meeting of April 21, 1980 in the absence of Mr. Rubley. The following recommendations made by the committee are attached as EXHIBIT A.

Mr. Geoghegan moved approval of the committee's recommendations; seconded by Mr. Cox.

Commissioner Reed asked if the recommendation for approval of policy to allow for "farebox and/or local contributions" on Article 4.5 be removed from the motion for a separate consideration.

Commissioner Cox commented that, with respect to the issue having to do with the TIP amendment to allow Caltrans to include preliminary engineering costs in the PSTIP, Mr. Heckeroth indicated at the FRC meeting that Caltrans sending a letter assuring us that this action wouldn't result in the slowing down of any of the other projects that the Commission is interested in. He also commented that, with respect to the Century Freeway stations, Crenshaw Blvd. and Wilmington Avenue are the most transit dependent areas in the southside of Los Angeles and he felt that the possibility of putting some stations to serve that community should be looked at.

Commissioner Cox asked for a voice vote on the motion because the law requires that we have 8 affirmative votes on the TDA formula amendment for funding of non-fixed transportation services.

Roll call vote on Mr. Geoghegan's motion to approve the committee recommendations with the exception of approval of policy to allow for "farebox and/or local contributions" for TDA Article 4.5 requirements.

Ayes: Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Killeen, Mr. Reeves,
Mr. Geoghegan, Mr. Rubley, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Cox,
Mr. Schabarum.

Nays: None.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Geoghegan to approve the recommendation for approval of policy to allow for "farebox and/or local contributions"; seconded by Mr. Cox.

Chairman Schabarum indicated that, because this is a debatable item and due to the lateness of the hour, he asked if this matter could be continued over to the next Commission meeting in two weeks. He acknowledged Commissioner Reed's interest and stated that she would be recognized on this matter at the next meeting.

Service Coordination Committee

Commissioner Cox informed the Commission of the committee's meetings with the consultants and with the bus operators. The committee had no items of action at this time.

Executive Director's Report

- A. Purchase of Xerox Machine: A recommendation was made by the Administrative Officer indicating that the Commission could save approximately \$65,000 over the next seven year if the copier machine was purchased instead of continuing to lease it. Mr. Premo concurs with the recommendation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rubley to approve the recommendation of staff to purchase the Xerox machine; seconded by Mr. Cox. Motion was unanimously approved.

- B. Commuter Computer Status Report: Priscilla Adler of staff was asked to report on the status of Commuter Computer. A summarized report was included in the agenda packet. She indicated that Commuter Computer has arrived at a very critical juncture as a result of three things:
- (1) Their tremendous growth of operations, particularly due to the energy crunch and transit strike of last summer;
 - (2) The fact that the commuter information and marketing organization report is complete. In that report there is a recommendation that Commuter Computer expand its responsibilities in the area of provision of transit information and providing other special services if certain changes are made in the organization; and
 - (3) Caltrans has expressed their intent to assume the responsibilities of Commuter Computer.

The Executive Director indicated that a letter has been sent to Mr. William Schaefer dated April 11, 1980 and signed by Steve Giovanisci, Chairman of the Board of Commuter Computer; Mark Pisano, Executive Director of SCAG; and Jerry Premo; posing a series of questions to Caltrans.

Mr. Heinz Heckerroth briefly explained the Caltrans proposal.

Chairman Schabarum asked the Commission to support him in encouraging Commuter Computer people to hire at least a short-term Executive Director who will carry the ball and from that, if necessary, we can try to figure out how we can raise money to keep Commuter Computer in operation in the event Caltrans reduces or withdraws its funds.

Chairman Schabarum suggested that the Commission formalize a letter directed to Commuter Computer, Caltrans, Mayor Bradley, and other to see if something can be done concerning the hiring of a short-term Executive Director to manage Commuter Computer.

Mr. Heckerroth indicated that a letter is forthcoming from Caltrans to the Board of Directors of Commuter Computer, outlining Caltrans' proposal.

C. Wilshire Preliminary Engineering Application Status

This is an information item. The availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement was printed in the Federal Register on April 18. The circulation of the Final EIS runs for 30 days so it is possible that we can receive a grant for preliminary engineering for the Wilshire Starter Line as early as May 19.

D. Status on Staff Report on Federal-Aid Urban Program

The City of Los Angeles and some other agencies have requested a delay in our report. Staff intends to complete the status report on May 5 and send to each Commissioner a copy of it in time for subsequent discussion of the FAU Program at the next Commission meeting.

Chairman Schabarum asked the Executive Director to send a second notice to the various agencies involved to remind them to submit their comments as soon as possible.

E. Performance Audit

SB 759 requires that a performance audit of the Commission be performed. This matter has been discussed with the Chairman and staff has drafted a Request for Proposal. Staff is proposing that an amount not to exceed \$25,000 be set aside for

the audit. Staff's recommendation would be that the Chairman refer this item to the Finance Review Committee for evaluation of the RFP and be authorized by the Commission to direct staff to issue the RFP and solicit proposals, evaluate them, and make recommendations as to a consultant to assist in the Commission's performance audit.

M/S/C - Staff's recommendation was unanimously approved.

F. Proposed 1980-81 LACTC Budget

The Administrative Code requires that a budget proposal for fiscal year 1980-81 be submitted to the Commission today. Copies of the proposed budget were distributed to the Commissioners. The Executive Director proposed that a public hearing be scheduled for the first meeting in June at which time the Commission can consider formal adoption of the proposed budget.

The Chairman asked that the proposed budget be referred to the Finance Review Committee for review, as well as individual reviews by each Commissioner.

New Business

SCRTD's Fare Increase Proposal

Commissioner Cox indicated that the SCRTD has recently undertaken a fare increase proposal and has included in that program the elimination of transfers. A motion was made by Mr. Cox that this Commission ask the Rapid Transit District to defer for at least one month its action on elimination of transfers and that if such action is not taken by next Monday or Tuesday, that this Commission convene a special meeting next Wednesday. Seconded by Commissioner Killeen.

Commissioner Geoghegan suggested that the Commission wait until the Board of Supervisors has met on Tuesday before taking any action. Chairman Schabarum concurred with Mr. Geoghegan's suggestion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rubley to table this matter for two weeks. Mr. Cox withdrew his motion but asked for an alternative approach.

The Executive Director indicated that the Board of Supervisors has made a request of this Commission for information. As part of its action yesterday, the Board invited the representatives of the RTD to appear before the Board to explain the

logic behind its fare increase. There was also a request from Supervisor Ward asking this Commission what funds are available that could help the RTD offset the fare increase. Staff will be following up in response to the requests from the Board of Supervisors for detailed discussion on available funds at their meeting next Tuesday. Staff has information available on fare and transfer policy for interested Commissioners.

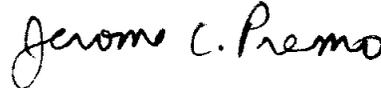
Notice of Meetings

Notice was received and filed.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



JEROME C. PREMO
Executive Director

JCP:kyt
Attachment