

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

MINUTES

February 27, 1980

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Schabarum at 3:12 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

Supervisor Peter Schabarum
Councilman Russell Rubley
Councilman John Zimmerman
Mayor Edmond J. Russ
Wendell Cox
Robert Reeves, alternate for Supervisor Hahn
Robert Geoghegan, alternate for Supervisor Edelman
Ray Remy, alternate for Mayor Bradley
Councilwoman Pat Russell, alternate for Councilman Ferraro
Heinz Heckeroth, Interim Commissioner, replacing Robert Datel

Staff members present:

Jerome C. Premo, Executive Director Ronald Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel Kathy Torigoe, Secretary to Executive Director

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of February 13, 1980 were unanimously approved.

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Schabarum introduced and congratulated Heinz Heckeroth as the new District Director for Caltrans District 07.

Committee Reports

Finance Review Committee

Commissioner Rubley reported on the committee's meeting of February 27 and passed out the committee's recommendations for Commission's approval.

L. A. County 1981-85 TIP Highway Program

Mr. Rubley asked the Executive Director and Linda Pendlebury to explain the TIP Highway Program. Copies of material, which was used at the FRC meeting, were handed out to the Commissioners. The Executive Director highlighted the agreements reached with Caltrans in this program. Out of a total program of \$932 million, \$561 million is programmed during the 5-year period for major projects. A major addition this year would be \$3.0 million for widening on Route 101 in response to consideration of a variety of projects and in response to a visit by the 101 Improvement Association at the last FRC meeting. In addition, a Route 60 (Pomona Freeway)/Greenwood Avenue Interchange project and the Route 2 R/R R/W acquisition proproject, which were not included in Caltrans program, are being added to the TIP. In regard to the \$162.0 million for operational improvements, \$82 million is set aside for soundwalls; \$58.0 million for ramp metering and congestion relief.

The recommendations of the committee are as follows:

- 1. that the 1981-85 Los Angeles County TIP be approved with the exception of the regional FAU program.
- 2. that staff present to the FRC at their next meeting an analysis of the regional FAU program with the intent of raising the level of funding for Commuter Computer.
- 3. that staff provide, at the next meeting of the FRC, information on the District's soundwall program, including projects which are scheduled for funding beyond the TIP period.

The goal of staff is to provide a written quarterly review to the Commission on how this program is progressing. Caltrans has been very helpful in these past months in providing information to the staff, and staff would like to continue to work with Caltrans in sharing information on TIP project delivery.

Commissioner Rubley suggested that on page 10 of staff's report (EXHIBIT A), we should delete reference to the limits on Route 7, but that the Route 7 project remain on the shelf list. The Executive Director indicated that Commissioner Zimmerman is scheduling a meeting of the Special Route 7 Committee on March 5. Mr. Heckeroth suggested that the total project cost for Route 7 of \$170 million would be a more reasonable amount.

Commissioner Cox recommended that Chairman Schabarum send a letter to Caltrans for funding for restriping of Burbank Blvd. on Golden State Freeway.

M/S/C - Approved the County Highway TIP recommendations.

The Executive Director indicated that the California Transportation Commission will hold a Highway Financing Hearing in Sacramento tomorrow. Staff will get back to the Commission with a report of the CTC meeting.

Request from City of Gardena for 1979-80 TIP Amendment to transfer bus purchase funds, and approval of new TDA funds for minibus purchase (\$90,000)

Request from City of Norwalk for \$101,000 additional TDA funds for bus acquisition, replacing local funds in an already-approved FAU grant, which will enable the purchase of two larger buses that were previously approved.

M/S/C - Approved the above items.

Investment of SB 620 Fund

Commissioner Russ asked whether the Commission is required to deposit SB 620 for investment by the County Treasurer, or whether we are free to pursue other options for the investment of these funds which might achieve a greater reward.

Joe Misner of staff indicated that Caltrans SB 620 regulations require that money be deposited with the County Treasurer and presumably invested by the County Auditor in the same manner as TDA. There has been questions raised by SCAG many times in the past about the rate of return in the investment of TDA funds by the County Auditor, and that is something that we want to continue to pursue and possibly see if we can get the existing Caltrans regulations changed to allow us other options for the investment of that money.

The Executive Director indicated that staff will return to the Finance Review Committee at the next meeting with specifics on what those options are (in particular, whether legislation is needed to change the requirement to invest SB 620 balances with the County Auditor), and also how the County Auditor responds to these expressions of concern about the present investment return in TDA fund balances.

M/S/C - To approve staff recommendation to authorize the creation of an interest-bearing account with the County Treasurer for the deposit of SB 620 funds.

Memoranda of Understanding on Transit Guideway Projects

The FRC recommended that staff send a letter to each implementing agency requesting that they respond to draft projectspecific MOU's by March 15. There was a very lengthy discussion on this subject at the FRC meeting. A motion was made that staff make an effort to see that each agency respond by

March 15, and include in the transmittal letter that failure to respond shall be a presumption that they concur in the proposed agreement.

M/S/C - Approved the forwarding of draft MOU's for comment to affected agencies.

The Executive Director indicated that the timetable is to receive comments from implementing agencies by March 15 and include in the FRC agenda the response from the agencies and staff's comments. Then the FRC will report back to the Commission.

Regional FAU Projects

This item was postponed to the next FRC meeting.

Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Commissioner Remy reported that the committee did not meet, but there are two items which the Commissioners should be aware of.

- Bill by Senator Foran which would eliminate the require-1. ment that school districts conduct Driver Training and Driver's Education Programs (thus eliminating the requirement that the State reimburse school districts for such programs), and transfer the saved revenue into the Motor Vehicle Account for use for the highway program. Commissioner Remy feels that the IRC should reflect on the bill before this Commission takes a position on it.
- The City of Los Angeles had meetings with UMTA Adminis-2. trator Lutz and Secretary Goldschmidt, and there is continued interest on Section 5 operating assistance on the Federal level. This subject will be discussed at the APTA Legislative Conference and at the League of Cities meeting. This subject is of interest to all the agencies here in Los Angeles County. He hopes that the IRC can meet before the Commission meeting on March 26.

Service Coordination Committee

Commissioner Cox indicated that he had no official items to report, but indicated that a significant action has taken place. Supervisor Baxter Ward introduced a motion about two months ago to the Board of Supervisors to establish a Santa Clarita Valley bus service which was approved. Hearings were held in the Santa Clarita Valley and the Board found that unmet transit needs existed that could be reasonably met. The Los Angeles County Road Department has put together a plan for providing the service.

Commissioner Cox moved that letters be sent to various parties commending them for the action taken, because there is going to be a significant improvement for this segment of the county.

M/S/C - Approved the motion to commend the various parties.

Executive Director's Report

- A. Union Station: Chairman Schabarum has identified the Union Station as a priority item for this Commission during this current fiscal year and calendar year as well. Mayor Bradley is reconvening a meeting with various interested parties interested in the Union Station development matters. A meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 29, at City Hall. It is hoped that an agreement can be reached on the acquisition and operation of the facility so that Caltrans can formally apply for \$12 million in additional UMTA funds during this fiscal year for its acquisition.
- B. SCAG General Assembly: SCAG is holding their Spring General Assembly on March 5 and 6. A principal item on the agenda is aviation. Councilwomen Russell and Reed are participating at this meeting.
- C. Windfall Profits Tax: Congress through its committees has acted on the Windfall Profits Tax which recommends that 15% of the revenues, be used for mass transportation and energy development, though the exact figures are not precise. The Administration will now proceed with a \$1.060 billion supplemental request to their current year's budget with an additional \$200 million in new rapid transit starts.
- D. Transit Financing: Staff hopes to have a legal opinion a week from this Friday on the matter of alternative means of pursuing a 1/2¢ sales tax increase for transit in Los Angeles County. Staff will, upon receipt of the opinion, schedule a special meeting for the Commission's review before the regular Commission meeting on March 26, to consider where we would go in transit development in associated financing, if at all, for this session of the Legislature. Staff has retained the firms of Kutak, Rock and Huie and Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg, & Tunney.

Commissioner Remy suggested that a special meeting be tentatively scheduled for March 19 at 3:00 p.m., subject to the substance of the legal opinion. Members of the Commission will be advised accordingly by staff.

E. L.A. County Highway TIP: The Executive Director complimented Linda Pendlebury for working with various people in preparing the Transportation Improvement Program report.

New Business

No new business was discussed.

Notice of Meetings

Commission meeting scheduled for March 12 has been canceled. Special meeting tentatively scheduled for March 19. Commission meeting scheduled for March 26. Finance Review Committee will meet on March 24 instead of March 26.

For the Commission meeting on March 26, Commissioner Remy suggested that Councilman Robert Farrell, City of Los Angeles, be invited to appear before the Commission. Councilman Farrell is the League of Cities representative on California Emergency Gasoline Plan. He will make a presentation on the activities of the California Energy Commission and the Outside Advisory Group on the California Emergency Gasoline Plan.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grome C. Premo

JEROME C. PREMO Executive Director

JCP:kyt

Attachment