



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

MINUTES

February 10, 1982

The regular Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Edelman at 1:40 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room at the Hall of Administration.

Members in attendance were:

Chairman Ed Edelman
Councilman Russ Rubley
Councilman John Zimmerman
Mayor Ed Russ
Wendell Cox
Ted Pierce, alternate to Supervisor Antonovich
Blake Sanborn, alternate to Supervisor Schabarum
Robert Reeves, alternate to Supervisor Hahn
Barna Szabo, alternate to Supervisor Dana
Heinz Heckerth, Ex-Officio for State of California

Staff members in attendance were:

Rick Richmond, Executive Director
Ronald Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel
Kathy Torigoe, Executive Secretary
Annette Honda, Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of January 13, 1982. No objections were heard.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Edelman indicated that President Reagan announced the federal budget for the fiscal year and that Mr. Edelman saw an impact on the operational subsidies for bus systems and other transportation matters in this county. Mr. Edelman moved that the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission staff be

instructed to investigate the impacts of President Reagan's proposed budget on transportation in Los Angeles. Mr. Edelman asked that this analysis be completed in two weeks. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Mr. Edelman also recommended that Wendell Cox be named to represent the Commission on the Article 8 Unmet Transit Needs Hearing Board, which will hold hearings in Valencia, the Antelope Valley and Avalon. A motion was made and seconded. No objection was heard.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Russ reported on the committee's meetings held on January 25 and February 8, 1982. The recommendations of the FRC are as follows:

Distribution of Shortfall in Section 5 Operating Subsidies

That the fiscal year 1982 funding shortfall be distributed according to the proportion of funds actually allocated to each transit operator for fiscal year 1982.

Changes in Transit Funding Formula

That the transit funding formula allocation procedure be continued in fiscal year 1983 with the one exception that each operator's minimum guarantee be set at 95% of formula share for FY 1983.

Revision to FY 1981-82 Transit Capital Program

That the revised transit capital program and reserves be adopted for FY 1981-82, except for four projects in the SCRTD program (i.e., minibuses, central maintenance facility, earthquake modification and equipment) which require further clarification.

Additional Local Match Allocation for Wilshire Starter Line Preliminary Engineering

Approval of a revised allocation to SCRTD of \$30,000 in STAF capital funds for support of the Regional Core Rapid Transit Project in FY 1981-82. This amount is consistent with the FY 1981-82 TIP as well as the SCRTD STA/LTE claim form approved by the Commission on July 9, 1981.

Preliminary FY 1982-83 Overall Planning Work Program

That the following planning projects be submitted for federal funding through SCAG:

UMTA Section 8 Funds

Projects submitted by transit operators:

- a. All requests for Short-Range Transit Plan Preparation (\$256,760) and line-by-line analysis (\$308,260); total \$565,020.
- b. Submit special short-range transit planning projects totaling \$1,228,000 needed to enable operators to prepare operating plans in anticipation of reduced subsidy levels and to improve efficiency and productivity of operations.

FHWA PL Funds

Planning projects submitted by the City and County of Los Angeles in the following order of priority:

- a. Transportation System Management - \$398,400.
- b. Supplementary Transportation Studies - \$495,750.

Reprogramming of Article 4.5 Funds

Approval of reprogramming of Article 4.5 funds, as proposed in the staff report dated January 15, 1982, with the recognition that paratransit coordination projects funded will be required to demonstrate the benefits of such coordination before additional funds are granted in future allocations.

Mr. Russ moved for approval of the FRC recommendations, seconded by Mr. Reeves. No objection was heard.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Szabo reported on the committee's meeting of today. The actions of the committee are as follows:

State Legislation

SB 1331 (Foran) - amends the current Prop. 5 program. IRC has reviewed this bill and recommends three clarifying amendments.

Page 5 - Amendment to the bill to clarify what would be required for a guideway financial plan - staff feels that current language is too broad and could subject an applicant to unnecessary red tape;

Page 10 - Amendment to the bill to clarify how the amount to be allocated to Los Angeles would be allocated;

Page 16 - Amendments to repeal current section of law concerning Caltrans responsibilities in approving guideway projects. These responsibilities would, if SB 1331 became law, be transferred to the CTC.

IRC recommends that these amendments be incorporated into the bill with the understanding that unless these particular provisions are in the bill, we would be obligated to oppose the bill.

It was moved for approval and seconded. No objection was heard.

SB 1335 (Foran) - as amended on February 1, 1982, would change the State Transit Assistance Program splits from 50%-50% to 40% for the State and regional mass transportation, 30% to RTPA's and county commissions, and 30% to transit operators. Staff recommends that the Commission support SB 1335 with amendments which address the issues regarding criteria used to allocate money to operators and the allocation of monies directly to operators. On these two points, the IRC recommends that all formula-allocated funds continue to come to county commissions and RTPA's and that the distribution formula proposed in the bill (fare revenue plus local support) not be used. The committee would suggest retaining the current population-based formula, or something similar, but also supported the concept of encouraging productivity as part of the bill. The committee recommends that the Commission support SB 1335 with the above amendments.

It was moved for approval and seconded. No objection was heard.

AB 1623 (Martinez) - permits Caltrans to build a freeway without a freeway agreement, if certain conditions are first met. These conditions only presently apply to the Long Beach Freeway.

The Commission on April 8, 1981 voted to support AB 1623 as introduced. On August 25, 1981, Assemblyman Martinez amended the bill to make the following major change to the bill: require the State Transportation Commission to readopt a route location for the Long Beach Freeway gap closure that would favor the Westerly Route over the adopted Meridian Route.

The bill currently is in a Conference Committee. It is unlikely the current Conference Committee will agree on the bill so there will most likely be a second Conference Committee appointed. At that time, the bill may progress further. At this point, it is stalled in the Conference Committee. Current language being considered by the Conference Committee removes the features of the bill to which the Commission objected.

Mr. Szabo moved that the Commission oppose the legislation unless the Conference Committee's language is adopted; seconded by Mr. Russ.

Mr. Zimmerman indicated that he is very reluctant of letting himself be in a position of favoring any action that places a big city over a little city.

Roll call vote:

Aye - Messrs. Sanborn, Reeves, Szabo, Pierce, Rubley, Russ, Cox, Edelman.

Nay - Mr. Zimmerman

1/2% Sales Tax Legislation - Mr. Szabo reported that the 1/2% sales tax bill died recently, and it would be the committee's intention to instruct staff to reintroduce that legislation. Assemblyman Berman would be willing to carry legislation and has requested that he meet with staff and local business leaders to see how much support there is for this particular proposal. The committee recommends the Commission proceed with the introduction of the legislation which must be done by Friday.

The committee did not review the report from the Ad Hoc Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Szabo, seconded by Mr. Reeves, to approve the committee's recommendation. No objection was heard.

Policy on Federal Transportation Legislation Objectives:

Mr. Szabo indicated that Mr. Remy has asked that this issue be held over.

Comments on DOT's Review on Urban Transportation Planning Process:

At the last committee meeting, staff was instructed to work with SCAG to produce a document that reflects agreement between the MPO and staff. We now have a document that we

feel represents essentially a position that can be accepted by local officials as well as the MPO. In our discussion of the draft document, we ask that there be some minor modifications that will be reflected in the final document that do not alter the essential comments of the document.

The federal government in dealing with planning issues should allow local entities to have meaningful participation in planning through procedures which we feel are appropriate and federal participation should be essential in giving us guidelines rather than specific instructions as to how planning should take place.

It was moved and seconded that the comments be forwarded to U.S. DOT. No objection was heard.

Staff presented to the committee with a report supporting the reauthorization of federal transportation legislation. The committee supported staff's recommendation that federal transportation legislation be reauthorized for a multi-year period with funding at current program levels. Further, the report establishes the case that the Los Angeles area has not received equitable funding treatment to date and suggests some specific legislative and policy features which could improve this situation. Specifically, they include a relaxation of the "no new starts" policy, a combined block grant and discretionary transit program, continuation of the FAU program, and interstate system definition which would allow for addition of high-occupancy lanes as envisioned on the Harbor Freeway.

It was moved and seconded to support the policy statement on Federal transportation legislation. No objection was heard.

SERVICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Cox reported that there were two items of action at the SCC meeting on February 1, 1982.

Proposed Reprogramming of FY 1981-82 Article 4.5 Funds

- o Approve the staff recommendation on reprogramming of Article 4.5 funds.

Mr. Cox mentioned that this has already been acted upon favorably by the Finance Review Committee.

Proposed Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Advisory Council (EHTAC) By-Laws

- a. Reject the EHTAC proposal to change the membership composition of EHTAC.
- b. Adopt EHTAC By-Laws as proposed with the following changes in the quorum and membership clauses:
 - A quorum is defined as one-half of the membership of the Committee, plus one.
 - Three consecutive absences by an agency and its alternate will be referred to the Commission through the SCC for possible termination of the agency from the membership rolls of EHTAC.

Mr. Cox indicated that SCC's recommendation is to approve the by-laws as they have been submitted by the EHTAC.

Mr. Richmond mentioned that he received a request from a representative of EHTAC that the Commission not act on the by-laws relating to their committee and that they have an opportunity to further communicate their interest on this matter before Commission action.

Mr. Cox suggested that the Commission approve the committee's recommendation at this point and invite the EHTAC to bring forward whatever issue they have in respect to the composition of the committee separately.

Mr. Edelman suggested that this matter be continued until the next meeting and invite the representatives to come and speak specifically on this matter.

Mr. Richmond indicated that staff's recommendation would be to invite them to the committee meeting to have a discussion regarding this matter.

Mr. Cox indicated that it would probably be impossible for them to act on it before the next meeting. This item should be on the agenda at the first meeting in March.

Paratransit Operations Subcommittee By-Laws

- o Adopt the Paratransit Operations Subcommittee By-Laws as proposed.

A motion was made to approve the PAROS By-Laws, which was seconded. No objection was heard.

AD HOC RAPID TRANSIT COMMITTEE

Mr. Zimmerman reported on the committee's meeting of February 2, 1982.

Light Rail Transit Study

Following a discussion of the status of the work and the amount of funds left in the contract, the committee recommends that:

1. The mode selection issue be considered only in the L.A. to Long Beach corridor;
2. That LRT only be examined in the other corridors, with the exception of the Union Station to LAX corridor, in which only the cable suspended technology will be examined;
3. Staff or the consultants be directed to prepare an estimate of the amount of time which would be required to develop the AGT and cable suspended technologies to equal the "off-the-shelf" status of light rail; and,
4. Assuming an equal starting point from a technology standpoint, to prepare for each mode a time line for right-of-way acquisition, engineering, environmental statements, construction and start of revenue service.

This item was moved for approval and seconded.

Mr. Russ asked if the proposal to limit the mode comparison to the L.A.-Long Beach corridor implies that that is the corridor being chosen.

Mr. Zimmerman replied that that was not necessarily the case. Rather, the idea was that whatever would work in the Long Beach-Los Angeles corridor would work in any of the other corridors.

Mr. Russ asked for further clarification.

Mr. Zimmerman answered that if a mode of transportation is considered feasible in the L.A.-Long Beach corridor, there will have been enough studies done to determine that this mode of transit would work in the other corridors as well.

Mr. Cox mentioned that we are using the light rail technology sort of as the baseline for comparison purposes. The cable suspended, AGT and the light rail technologies would be looked at in the Long Beach corridor, and by the relationship of the costs of the benefits in that corridor, we can make some judgment about the other corridors.

A motion was made to adopt the committee's report Item #1. It was moved, seconded, and approved without objection.

Consultant's Draft Final Summary Report

In the interest of expediting the decision-making process, the committee recommends that the consultants' Draft Final Summary Report be circulated for review and comment upon receipt of the document.

This item was moved, seconded and approved without objection.

Funding Proposal for Aircar Mass Transportation System

The committee considered a proposal by Dr. Martin Taft of Socio-Economic Systems, Inc. that the LACTC fund a \$76,684 feasibility study regarding a mass transit system utilizing air-cushioned hybrid-electric buses.

The committee recommends that this study not be funded.

This item was moved, seconded, and approved without objection.

Working Papers by Consultants

The committee reviewed and received three new working papers by our consultants regarding:

- Engineering feasibility of the Los Angeles to Long Beach light rail project.
- Evaluation of the overall feasibility of light rail transit, automated guideway transit, and cable suspended transit.
- Engineering aspects of countywide transit corridors.

Mr. Zimmerman moved for approval of these items as part of the committee report. It was moved, seconded, and approved without objection.

STAFF REVIEW OF FREEWAY EXPRESS TRANSIT PROPOSAL

Mr. Paul Taylor briefly recapped the concepts for the bus-on-freeway services proposed by SCTAC. A question and answer period followed his presentation.

Mr. Cox made a motion asking staff to work with SCRTD, Caltrans, other agencies, and SCTAC to begin to report to the Ad Hoc Rapid Transit Committee some time in late March or early April to begin some consideration of this proposal.

It was moved for approval and seconded.

Mr. Heckerth mentioned that the Line Haul Transit Committee at SCAG is looking into this also as a modal option along the various corridors. The product of that is due some time in the March-April time frame to amend the regional transportation plan as such that it would give SCRTD an opportunity to review the priorities of the various corridors.

It was moved for approval and seconded by Mr. Russ. No objection was heard.

Mr. Zimmerman asked that staff prepare a report on what we as a Commission are doing to attract private industry to the transit program in Los Angeles County.

Mr. Richmond indicated that the Finance Review Committee had a motion on this subject and staff will be reporting through the Finance Review Committee on some thoughts or ways to approach this issue in approximately one month.

Mr. Dave Grayson thanked the Commission for considering the SCTAC's bus-on-freeway proposal.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Mass Transit Show and Conference

The show and conference will be held in Los Angeles the first week of April. Chairman Edelman is on the show committee. It will be a combination of a conference with participants from around the country on various issues on mass transit and also a trade show on mass transit equipment that will take place at the Convention Center. Staff will be phoning members and alternates to determine who would like to be registered for this conference.

2. Light Rail Transit Study

The tentative schedule is to circulate the report to a variety of interested parties as soon as it is available, possibly at the end of February. Those who feel they want to address the Commission specifically on this study will be asked to do so on March 10, at which time there will be a briefing on what is in the report. A discussion on where to go with it will be scheduled for March 24.

NEW BUSINESS1. Committee Assignments

Chairman Edelman announced that the committee assignments will remain the same as the 1981 list.

Finance Review Committee

Ed Russ/Chris Reed - Chairman

Service Coordination Committee

Wendell Cox/Jim Ragan - Chairman

Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Tom Bradley/Ray Remy - Chairman

Ad Hoc Rapid Transit Committee

John Zimmerman/John Van Doren - Chairman

2. San Diego Trolley

Mr. Russ reported that he rode the San Diego Trolley and was very impressed with the system. The whole project was done with the idea of meeting a budget and within a time frame and they were able to accomplish this.

Messrs. Pierce, Cox, and Rubley also commented on the San Diego Trolley system.

3. Alternate for Russ Rubley

Mr. Rubley mentioned that his alternate is Mr. Jim Wilson, Councilman for the City of Long Beach.

4. Federal Transportation Legislation Objectives

Mr. Richmond briefly summarized these objectives. The recommendations are that both programs be reauthorized for a multi-year period with funding at current program levels. In the case of the highway program, we support the existing programs -- interstate, federal aid primary, and federal aid urban program. In the transit program, we would seek a combination of block grants and discretionary grants so that we would both address an equity concern and also some ability to do major transit projects such as the Wilshire Starter Line. The policy of "no new rail starts" does work inequitably against Los Angeles and we should be opposing that. This particular policy is being considered by the Central City Association, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, ourselves, and the SCRTD.

A motion was made for approval, seconded by Mr. Pierce. No objection was heard.

5. Security on Transit Buses

Mr. Cox indicated that this Commission should commend the Board of Supervisors for its action yesterday for appropriating about \$225,000 to continue off-duty police officers on transit buses.

6. Publication

Mr. Zimmerman mentioned to staff that future publications should refer to Los Angeles County rather than just "Los Angeles".

Mr. Richmond indicated that the publication in question was not prepared by staff, but the comment was noted.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Notice was received and filed. The next Commission meeting will be held on February 24, 1982 at the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Hall of Administration at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



RICK RICHMOND
Executive Director

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