

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Workshop Session  
Board of Directors  
District Board Room  
425 South Main Street  
Los Angeles

February 16, 1989

Called to order at 10:12 a.m. by President Swanson

Directors Present:

Gordana Swanson	Jeff Jenkins
Marvin L. Holen (arr 10:30 a.m.)	Nick Patsaouras
John F. Day	Jay B. Price
Joseph S. Dunning (arr 10:24 a.m.)	Charles H. Storing
Larry Gonzalez (arr 12:40 p.m.)	Kenneth R. Thomas
Jan Hall	

1. Received and filed status of operations and services over the past year.

President Swanson congratulated staff on a job well done. Director Patsaouras said the figures were incredible and that a press conference should be held to publicize the many improvements.

2. Received an extensive status report on graffiti and vandalism.

Mr. Richeson said that a video was being put together and would be distributed to various communities and agencies so they could see first hand our problems with vandalism and graffiti.

Mr. Davis reported that progress has been made in the mechanical condition of the buses.

Managers from operating divisions appeared before the Board to give a different perspective on the graffiti/vandalism situation. There was a lengthy discussion between the managers and Board members regarding possible solutions to this problem. There was no immediate solution proposed.

S. Pappa from the Transit Police Department spoke to actions being taken by their department. A video was shown of individuals marking buses and being apprehended. She noted that a special enforcement team has been able to make arrests of individuals caught in the process of vandalism/graffiti. Also, work is being done with police departments from other cities to help combat the problems. Currently, the change in legislation which allows officers to issue citations rather than booking an offender seems to be working. It is unknown at this time how successful issuance of these citations will be as we do not know how judges will react and/or uphold them. We should have some feedback within the next month.

Director Patsaouras requested that staff contact Senator Diane Watson's office and make an appointment for viewing the video. Director Thomas requested a report to see if civil suits could be filed against the parents of minors to recover cost of damages. Director Patsaouras requested a report on how the District will interface with the District Attorney to deal with the graffiti issue.

On question, staff said that the proposed cost to implement this program is above the current budget. Also asked was the possibility of getting emergency legislation passed on this issue.

Director Jenkins said the District needs to send a message to the schools and communities as to what our policy is regarding vandalism and graffiti. He felt there was sufficient Proposition A money available that could be used to institute this program.

Possible solutions that were discussed involved not stopping at a school where trouble has occurred; shutting the bus down if they graffiti it, notifying schools, parents and communities that this will be done requesting their help at trouble areas; offenders being sentenced through courts to clean graffiti from buses and/or various community services. Also, if graffiti/vandalism continues at a particular school, then no school service would be provided for a period of time.

Discussion also centered around letting the public know the dollar amounts involved for repairs and graffiti removal and how it affects the amount of service on the street; ads in newspapers, radio, billboards, etc., possibility of identifying individual taggers, revising current codes, establishing contest among kids for their ideas on fighting graffiti, establishing a task force on the Board, and possibly one among staff. Staff was requested to involve city and county representatives, the D.A., schools and communities in a meeting and report results to the Board.

The Board recessed at 12:05 p.m. returning at 12:38 p.m. with all Directors present except Director Hall.

3. Presented position paper on District revenue and discussion of fare media, average yield, and total revenue productivity.

General Manager Pegg said that the District will need to set fares for light rail within the next 18 months, when the system is due to begin operation. Staff indicated that with lead time they will possibly return during the summer with recommended policy changes that will be required.

Discussion focused on funding issues and problems, with the Commission's formula for distribution of same and possible changes that could be instituted; interagency transfer agreements; means of increasing the farebox revenue; and, integration of District fare structure with other transit agencies.

4. Received and filed report on Los Angeles County Transportation Commission's proposal for integration of the County-wide transportation system.

Al Reyes, Government Affairs Department, said that the Commission has carried the issue over until March. They are in support of a county-wide telephone information system; a county-wide pass is also being considered.

Staff will return with an analysis and recommendations for guidance by the Board. Many of the proposals will require new funding sources, which issue also must be addressed.

5. CARRIED OVER the review of Non-Contract and Executive staff compensation system.
6. There was no public comment.



Rhodona Thompson  
Recording Secretary