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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING

Board of Directors  
July 13, 1990  
District Board Room  
425 South Main Street  
Los Angeles

Called to Order at 4:15 P.M.

Directors Present

Nick Patsaouras, President	Jerold F. Milner
Larry Gonzalez, Vice President	Gordana Swanson (By Phone)
Joseph Dunning	Kenneth R. Thomas
Marvin L. Holen	
Jeff Jenkins	
Don Knabe	

Directors Absent

Jay B. Price  
Charles H. Storing

1. Received briefing on status of Metro Rail tunnel fire.

President Patsaouras commended staff, particularly the News Bureau, Mr. Perdon and Mr. Pegg for being so cooperative with the media.

He then reported that it was too early to know the cause of the fire. There was no work crew in the left tunnel when the fire started. There were 6 people in the right tunnel working on the polyethylene barrier. No one on the work crews has been injured; some firefighters were transported to the hospital and later released. Most of the 700' tunnel is involved, but the fire in the segment of tunnel below the freeway has been contained

allowing a group of engineers to enter and evaluate the damage in that area. The structural integrity of the busway seems to be intact. The freeway and busway will however remain closed until there is no possibility of toxic fumes. An assessment team is currently designing a support system for the segment of tunnel under the Santa Ana Freeway, with construction expected to start as early as tomorrow morning. Crews will work 24 hours a day so that the freeway can be reopened in a minimum amount of time. Chemical grouting is currently part of what is supporting the freeway as well as the other structures in the area. There is one 80'x 20' area of surface collapse under a vacant lot where no chemical grouting was done because there were no structures to protect.

No substantial schedule impact is expected as the damaged tunnel is a utility tunnel, not a passenger tunnel, which may allow schedule to be maintained by bringing trains in and out on just one track.

General Manager Pegg met with the City Council today regarding the risk to people using the freeway and/or busway in the fire area. He described the meeting as being very constructive and added that he had not been requested to appear before the Board of Supervisors.

The involvement of the Los Angeles Fire Department in this project from the outset helped tremendously in fighting the fire. Cal Trans will make the determination as to when the freeway will reopen; the busway will open as soon as the smoke clears.

Two investigative teams have been formed, one to evaluate scheduling, the other to evaluate reconstruction costs.

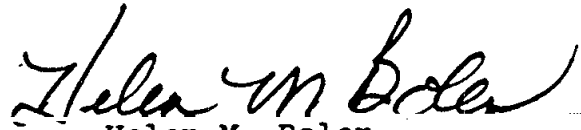
Even though this contract has been assigned to the LACTC, both staffs are working cooperatively.

On inquiry from the Board as to the possibility of something of this nature occurring in another tunnel, staff responded that this tunnel contains timber lagging, steel support bands and some polyethylene lining. The rest of the system at this point is concrete, either the initial liners or the final finished pour. The risks are substantially different in this tunnel where there is exposed timber.

2. Public comment

None

Adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen M. Bolen".

Helen M. Bolen  
District Secretary