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MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS



Joint Meeting of the

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT  
and  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 6, 1991

Meeting called order at 1:40 p.m. by presiding Chairman Grabinski in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room at the Hall of Administration.

Directors/Commissioners Present:

Ray Grabinski  
Richard Alatorre  
Jacki Bacharach  
Jerry Baxter  
Tom Bradley  
Deane Dana  
Ed Edelman  
Kenneth Hahn  
Judy Hathaway-Francis  
Jay B. Price  
Charles H. Storing  
Gordana Swanson  
James Tolbert

Directors/Commissioners Absent:

Michael Antonovich  
Jerold F. Milner  
Peter Schabarum

Also Present:

Mas Fukai  
Jeff Jenkins  
Don Knabe  
Nick Patsaouras

Staff Present:

Suzanne Gifford  
David Kelsey  
Alan F. Pegg  
Neil Peterson

2. The minutes of the December 5, 1990 Joint Meeting were approved with the following correction:

Mr. Price indicated that the follow-up to the Equal Employment Opportunity Development Program was not adequate.

3. LACTC/SCRTD Reorganization Plan - Status:

An oral presentation was made by Jeff Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins informed the Board that a Reorganization Committee meeting was held including former transportation policy makers and current Committee members on the topic of reorganization and consolidation. Mr. Jenkins noted that there was an agreement to clarify the roles, relationships and objectives of each of the respective organizations at the next meeting.

4. 30-Year Draft Transportation Financial Plan:

Mr. Peterson presented a progress report on the basic allocation of funds, priorities and design of the future transportation system. Topics included the freeway system, addressing the unfinished portions of the freeway, how fast should the bus service be expanded, the interfacing of the Rail System, how expansive should the Rail System be, a county-wide HOV Plan, and the existing park-and-ride lots.

Mr. Peterson pointed out that 80% of county-wide work trips are being taken in single occupancy vehicles, 8.1% are being taken by bus/rail and about 12% are being taken by carpool. In order to meet the congestion management goals, mobility goals and AQMD goals for reducing emissions, these percentages need to be reduced by 20% over the coming years while the number of people coming into the county will continue to increase. Consequently, bus and rail systems will need to pick up more than twice the passengers they now pick up. He stressed an emphasis in not only bus and rail but also on providing incentives for carpooling.

Ms. Bacharach requested that the title of the 30-Year Financial Plan Chart be changed to reflect the fact that many of the options displayed would not be possible within 30 years.

Mr. Peterson summarized that some tough decisions would need to be made to determine which bus/rail and freeway projects would be included in the final 30-Year Financial Plan.

Public comment was received from Mr. Abe Falick, Coalition for Rapid Transit

Mr. Baxter suggested that a report be drawn up that shows the effectiveness versus dollars spent for ride-share programs versus alternatives.

Mr. Bradley raised the issue of security on the trains (memo was handed out). He applauded the enhancement of rail security but insisted that the enhancement of security on the buses must not be overlooked. Mr. Peterson responded by pointing out that 5% of Prop. C funds were specifically allocated for security on trains and buses; however, he noted that 5% may not be enough.

Ms. Hathaway-Francis raised the question of possible joint ventures with the private sector and financial tools.

The plan will be revised and reviewed again at the June meeting.

5. Transit Operator Bus Overcrowding:

A presentation was made by Mr. Peterson and Mr. Art Leahy summarizing the bus overcrowding analysis conducted by both agencies.

The recommendations were as follows:

- a. Fifteen buses be added by the SCRTD and funded by the LACTC, to include a special circulator demonstration project within the City of Los Angeles; and
- b. Five buses be added on the most overcrowded routes operated by the Los Angeles County Municipal Operators and funded by the LACTC. The Executive Director is authorized to work with the operators to determine the highest priority for use of these five buses and report back to the LACTC with the results of his actions.
- c. Approve the allocation from the Proposition A Discretionary Interest Account, not to exceed \$750,000 for four months funding to relieve overcrowding as described above.
- d. Proposition C funds shall be allocated to repay the \$750,000 advance from the Proposition A Discretionary Interest Account; and
- e. Direct the Executive Director to develop county-wide standards defining overcrowding and a process for operators to apply for Proposition C Discretionary Funds

to demonstrate that each has taken advantage of all possible intra- and inter-agency service redeployment opportunities;

- f. Authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary administrative steps to implement the actions approved above.

Solutions were listed as follows:

- a. Redeployment - better utilizing the existing resources
- b. Add service - recommendation to put out 20 new buses to deal with most severe overcrowding situations
- c. Preferential speed treatment - improving average bus speed to 14 m.p.h. can achieve the same effect as adding another bus at no additional cost to the system
- d. High capacity equipment - utilizing high capacity buses

Mr. Peterson summarized each of the options, then requested the allocation of Prop. C funds for 20 additional buses (from the spares and the energy contingency fleet), to pursue the redeployment analysis and to incorporate into the Prop. C guidelines, the application process for the use of funds in the future for eligible overcrowded buses. The proposal was designed with the cooperation of SCRTD and the municipal operators.

Ms. Bacharach voiced her disagreement with the proposed use of Prop. C funds and asked for information on alternative funding sources. She also requested that the items on the back page of the report be further discussed at committee meetings. With the exception of her comments regarding the use of Prop. C funds, Ms. Bacharach moved to pass the recommendations which were seconded.

Public testimony was received from:

Mr. Herb Franklin  
Mr. Edward Duncan  
Mr. Greg Roberts

Hearing no objection, Ms. Bacharach's motion was carried.

6. Equal Employment Opportunity & Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Program - LACTC/SCRTD Proposed Consolidation:

A presentation was made by Leslie Porter, Deputy Executive Director of the LACTC, which outlined the benefits of consolidating the EEO/DBE Programs of the LACTC and RTD. He noted that the essential elements of both LACTC's and RTD's EEO and DBE Programs are the same and that they satisfy UMTA requirements.

Chairman Grabinski inquired as to the reason why no agreement on the program had been reached. Mr. Norwood, Mr. Pegg, Mr. Tolbert, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Alatorre, Mr. Dana, Mr. Price and Ms. Bacharach voiced their concerns regarding this issue.

Mr. Bradley moved that the SCRTD and LACTC consolidate their EEO Programs at LACTC, adopting the proposed program presented by Mr. Porter. After much discussion, Mr. Edelman made a substitute motion to have another joint meeting to further discuss and resolve the proposed plan two weeks from today.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hahn, Edelman, Hathaway-Francis, Price, Storing,  
Swanson

No: Dana, Bradley, Alatorre, Bacharach, Grabinski

Abstained: Tolbert

The substitute motion failed.

Ms. Swanson offered a second substitute motion that the LACTC contract for DBE and EEO with the SCRTD, renew the existing contract for one year.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hahn, Edelman, Hathaway-Francis, Tolbert, Price,  
Storing, Swanson

No: Dana, Bradley, Alatorre, Bacharach, Grabinski

The second substitute motion failed.

The original motion of Mr. Bradley was restated by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Dana.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dana, Bradley, Alatorre, Hathaway-Francis,  
Bacharach, Tolbert, Grabinski

No: Hahn, Edelman, Price, Storing, Swanson

The motion passed by the LACTC, but failed by the RTD Board.  
As a Joint Board, the motion failed.

Ms. Hathaway-Francis requested that a position paper be compiled outlining the issues, alternatives, and positions of the boards, similar in format to the paper prepared for agenda item #5.

Mr. Patsaouras requested that a consolidation of federal lobbying efforts be examined for the next meeting.

Ms. Bacharach moved that further discussion of the EEO/DBE item be referred to the individual committees, which was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

7. SCRTD Five-Year Capital and Service Expansion Plan:

Mr. Alan Pegg made a presentation on the plan.

Ms. Bacharach asked if the SCRTD Board had approved this plan. Mr. Pegg responded that the plan was reviewed by the Board but had not separately been adopted or approved. Ms. Bacharach expressed her interest in the report and her concerns regarding the "desired" plan's fundability for the Joint Board, the five-year figures rather than a two-year plan and the statement regarding "fiscal austerity".

Mr. Patsaouras explained that this plan reflected the needs of RTD but that a common ground needs to be established and that a discussion on these issues should begin.

Public testimony was received from:

Mr. Paul Webben, Manager of the Clean Fuels  
Program/South Coast Air Quality Management District

Mr. John Walsh, United Riders of Los Angeles

8. Federal Surface Transportation Act Reauthorization  
Legislation - Status:

Mr. Peterson gave a status report highlighting the major issues with the Administration's proposed legislation.

- a. Overall amount of federal funding is inadequate for transit;
- b. All transit funds are proposed to come out of the trust fund balance and that no general monies be used;
- c. No operating assistance would be provided to L.A. County;
- d. The bill suggests that the matching ratio for federal to local funds be increased to 60:40 or 50:50 for transit, whereas the matching ratios for the highway remain at 90:10 or 75:25;
- e. There are not enough federal dollars to fund the High Occupancy Vehicle Plan;

Mr. Grabinski commented on his successful meeting in Chicago with Chairpersons from 11 of the major transit systems and the efforts underway to provide a consolidated effort to obtain more federal funding. The major operators will go to Washington in April to discuss these issues with Congress.

9. Federal Clean Air Act - Impacts to Los Angeles County:

Ms. Rebecca Barrantes made a presentation. Ms. Barrantes noted that an EPA Air Plan for the L.A. basin does not exist. She directed attention to attachment A which shows the net effect to LACTC's Capitol improvement program. All these new projects were not grandfathered into the federal act of November 1990. The 1989 Air Quality Management District Plan is awaiting approval at SCAG and then will go to AQMD and the California Air Resources Board before moving on to the EPA. This procedure will take 6 - 8 months. The 1991 AQMD approval will take 2 - 3 years making it imperative that the 1989 Plan be passed and include the LACTC projects. Ms. Barrantes stressed the need to address certain issues in the 1991 AQMD Plan including growth management.

Mr. Peterson reiterated that the 1989 Plan must be passed by SCAG to avoid being held up on certain projects. Mr. Peterson noted that an overview LACTC workshop would be held April 10th. Mr. Grabinski suggested that a regular report be attached to the agenda to keep everyone informed on these issues.

10. Prop. A Discretionary Guidelines:

In the interest of time, no presentation was made. Mr. Peterson noted that both the RTD Board and the LACTC had been briefed on this item previously and that he was available for questions and discussion. No questions or comments were made.

11. Other:

General Comments:

- a. Mr. Bradley requested that his name be removed from the newsclips mailing list.
- b. Ms. Swanson requested that all the back-up material for the agenda be delivered to the Commissioners and Board members in advance of the meetings. Mr. Grabinski suggested that material be ready 48 hours before the meetings and failing that the members be notified with the option to remove the item from the agenda.
- c. Public Testimony was received from:

Mr. John Walsh  
Mr. Sheldon Walter  
Mr. Bryan Allan (hand out)

The next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

*Kathy Torigoe*  
KATHY TORIGOE  
Executive Secretary  
to the Commission