

10
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

Regular Board Meeting
Board of Directors
District Board Room
425 South Main Street
Los Angeles

October 24, 1991

Called to order by President Holen at 11:10 a.m.

Directors Present:

Marvin L. Holen
Charles H. Storing
Richard Alatorre
Evan Anderson Braude
Mas Fukai
Don Knabe

Nick Patsaouras
Carl W. Raggio, Jr.
Gordana Swanson
James L. Tolbert
Antonio Villaraigosa

1. Received initial report from Peer Review Panel regarding Transit Police Department operations.

Messrs. H. Taylor, Bay Area Rapid Transit and W. Bratton, New York Transit Authority, presented their Peer Review report on the SCRTD Transit Police Department.

They said that the review indicated the Transit Police officers are very highly motivated with defined roles. The Peer Review Committee said that in their opinion the officers are capable of covering the security on the Metro Blue Line; that since the last Peer Review done approximately two years ago, the Transit Police Department has become an outstanding specialized police unit.

The Peer Review Committee noted that they began their review by acquainting themselves with the report of the previous Peer Review group noting that the Transit Police Department was a 'troubled' department in 1989 and they remarked, in very strong terms, of the tremendous progress made under the leadership of Chief Papa. They concluded that the Transit Police Department is a well managed, well trained, highly motivated specialized law enforcement unit and is capable of handling any and all police functions related to transit.

The state of the current communications system for policing the bus system was the only issue that should be addressed and improved. They did state that the Blue Line communications system is state of the art.

B. Grubbs, background investigator for RTD and C. Mitchell, Rio Hondo Police Academy also testified regarding training and background review of Transit Police officers. The Transit Police Department uses Rio Hondo Academy for training.

There was some discussion surrounding the training facilities utilized by the Transit Police Department. C. Mitchell said that the Sheriff Academy graduates officers with 70% passing score while the Rio Hondo Police Academy does not pass below 80%.

Director Alatorre introduced Assemblyman Polonco. Assemblyman Polonco praised the Transit Police Department and the leadership of Chief Papa. He asked the Board to be supportive of Chief Papa and her department and allow them to provide the security on the Blue Line. Assemblyman Polanco noted that the cost savings was only one issue to be considered. He concluded by presenting a plaque to Chief Papa.

Appearance of P. Korwin, Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District, praising the Transit Police for their work and cooperative attitudes.

Recessed at 12:32 p.m. for lunch and Closed Session to consider personnel, litigation, real estate matters and labor negotiations. Returned at 12:45 p.m. to consider items three and four.

3. General Manager Pegg introduced the retirees to the Board and President Holen congratulated them for their dedication.

4. Recognized employees of the month Vicki Louis, Information Operator, Dennis Dickason, Maintenance Employee and John Halyak, Bus Operator.

Recessed to Closed Session at 12:45. At 1:43 p.m. returned to open session with all Directors present. There was no mention of items discussed.

5. Recognition of Transit Police Department by Assemblyman Polonco.

This item was discussed under item one.

8. Director Special Items

Director Raggio gave a status report on the recent meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee for the 30-year Plan. He indicated that one of the concerns of the Committee was that the bus system was not receiving equal levels of funding or consideration. The rail system will depend on the bus system to bring patrons to it.

6. Report of the President

No report was made

9. Considered action on Blue Line security arrangements.

General Manager Pegg commented briefly on the issue.

Chief Papa said that her officers were highly qualified and could provide security on the Blue Line for approximately \$5.6 million less than the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD).

Director Villaraigosa said that there has been a great deal of political pressure. He requested members of the Board to vote based on reality rather than politics; what is best for the District and riding public. The difference of \$5.6 million could be used to enhance service and security for the bus system.

Captain F. Vadurro, LASD, appeared before the Board questioning the \$13.8 million cost. Upon question, Captain Vadurro did acknowledge that \$11.9 million was the figure used for the current year and not the next year. Controller/Treasurer Rubin said that the figures were obtained from a document prepared by the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC).

Captain Vadurro indicated that the public is familiar with the Sheriff on the Blue Line and felt that their presence would be more widely acceptable. There are approximately 124 officers assigned to the Blue Line which includes top administration.

Director Tolbert spoke to the confidence of the riding public. He felt both the Sheriff and Transit Police could provide quality security but that making a change at this time could be risky. He said he would prefer to have a one year contract.

Director Swanson questioned the high cost for the Sheriff to provide security and the lack of a proposal that could be reviewed. She asked Captain Vadurro about minorities among the deputies that were used on the Blue Line.

Director Alatorre asked about training for officers. He said that Transit Police are highly trained and meet the same requirements as the Sheriff. He urged the Board to support the Transit Police. A decision must be made and clearly defined as to what we are going to ask of our Transit Police and how they will be evaluated. If in fact the contract with the Sheriff is extended, the Transit Police Dept. needs to know what it is they need in order to go forward with the Blue Line security.

Director Holen expressed concern for adequate security for the bus system noting that it is a much more difficult job than security for the rail system.

Director Storing commented that another issue before the Board today was the integrity of the Board. Two years ago when the contract was awarded to the LASD, the Transit Police were told they would assume security of the Blue Line at the end of that timeframe. He urged the Board to honor their commitment to the Transit Police.

Director Braude said that in reality decisions are made both on background and political pressure. He asked if there was an option for a one year contract indicating he would support an increase in the level of funding for Transit Police.

Director Patsaouras commented that the Peer Review report substantiated his high opinion of the Transit Police. Chief Papa has proven to be very competent and she has improved not only the departmental functions, but the morale of the employees. He agreed the Transit Police Department needs to know where they are going and what is expected of them. He said that the Board should make a strong statement that the Transit Police Department will be the authority policing the Green and Red lines.

Director Villaraigosa said the Board needed to consider the cost. Both the LASD and Transit Police can provide quality security on the Blue line. The difference in cost could provide more buses and resources for other needed services, i.e., graffiti removal, increased bus security. The perception of the public as to security on the Blue Line is that there is a uniformed officer on board; Sheriff or Transit Police.

Director Raggio said that security for the bus system is a must. He indicated he would be willing to extend the LASD contract one year if the LACTC would agree to increase funding for Transit Police for bus security.

Following questions to a representative of the LACTC regarding funding availability, Director Holen suggested a possible motion to extend the LASD contract for a two year period and authorize the General Manager to negotiate an agreement with the LACTC to provide funding to increase the Transit Police Department to 242 officers for an amount of \$8.6 million the first year and the same amount plus CPA increase for the second year. Director Fukai said he would make the motion covering 192 Transit Police officers at a funding level of \$5.0 million. This motion was seconded and discussion continued.

Director Alatorre made a substitute motion for a one year contract with the level of Transit Police officers at 242 at \$8.6 million funding. This motion was seconded. He said that the motion must also include a firm commitment by the Board to completely turn Blue Line security over to the Transit Police by June 1993. The contract extension with the Sheriff would be void unless funding from the LACTC for the Transit Police officers is assured.

Chief Papa commented that the current contract includes a six month transition period for transfer of security from the LASD to the Transit Police. She concluded that Transit Police could provide Blue Line security and still add 50 officer positions for the bus system at a cost no greater than that proposed by LASD for Blue Line security.

M. Weissman, Transit Police Officers Association, appeared to speak on behalf of the Transit Police providing security for the Blue Line. He spoke to media involvement and political pressures resulting in the award of contract to the LASD for Blue Line security.

Appearance of E. Lopez, Director of Miracle on Broadway (MOB), commending the Transit Police for the wonderful job done by Transit Police to provide a safer atmosphere for patrons. She said this has also resulted in more elderly shoppers coming to the area. The Transit Police are the District's best "good will ambassadors."

Attorney B. King appeared in support of the Transit Police. He stated that since the appointment of Chief Papa there has been an improvement in the officers morale. He concluded that \$2,000 is the total amount paid out in claims against the Transit Police in the last two years.

S. Brackett, Peace Officers Reserve of California, spoke in support of the Transit Police officers.

Appearance of R. Duran representing Grand Central Market, who said that since the Transit Police officers have been on Broadway they have experienced a much safer environment.

Appearance of L. Tainer and R. Delgadillo, Transit Police Officers Association, in favor of Transit Police providing the security for Blue Line urging the Board to take this opportunity to integrate both bus and rail security. Officer Delgadillo said he has been part of the recruitment and training process, and the officers are highly qualified and ready to assume security of the Blue Line.

J. Weintraub, Miracle on Broadway, thanked the Transit Police Department for the job they have done on Broadway. His customers have commented they feel safe with the Transit Police present.

Director Holen restated the original motion; i.e., a two year contract period with funding from the LACTC for \$5.0 million for 192 officers. The substitute motion by Director Alatorre provides for a one year contract period, \$8.6 million for 242 Transit Police officers with the transition from the LASD to the Transit Police to begin January 1, 1993. Also included in the motions is the condition that LACTC provide funding within 45 days for the Transit Police officers for the bus system.

During further discussion, Director Fukai said he could support 242 Transit Police officers for a two year period, but for a one year contract he could only support 192 Transit Police officers. Director Braude said that he could only support a one year contract. Director Holen suggested that a major public relations campaign be launched for the Transit Police as part of the motion.

Director Tolbert reminded everyone that the District was not in control of the funds. Director Fukai commented that Supervisor Hahn wants to enhance the Transit Police Department to provide more security for the bus system.

Chief Papa pointed out that the difference in costs between the LASD and Transit Police is \$5.6 million. She asked why the LACTC couldn't use this difference to fund the additional 50 officers. Director Swanson asked the LACTC representative if the money would be available for additional officers for the Transit Police if the contract were not renewed with the LASD. Mr. Givens indicated he was unable to give an answer.

The substitute motion passed on a Roll Call vote as noted below:

Ayes:	Alatorre, Braude, Patsaouras, Raggio, Swanson, Tolbert
Noes:	Fukai, Knabe, Storing, Villaraigosa
Abstain:	Holen
Absent:	None

WHEREAS, improved security on the Southern California Rapid Transit District bus system is desirable for improvement of service for our riders; and

WHEREAS, the recent increase in Southern California Rapid Transit District Transit Police Force has had a significant beneficial impact; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission has offered to increase Transit Police funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Southern California Rapid Transit District does hereby:

- a. extend the existing contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff for a period of one year; from July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1993;
- b. authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission to provide funding for an increase in the Transit Police Force (such additional funding and expense not to be included in the farebox recovery test under the Transportation Development Act and local transit regulations);
- c. approve an increase in the size of the Transit Police Force to a total of 242 sworn officers for protection of the bus system;
- d. approve an increase in the Transit Police Force budget of \$8,560,000 in Fiscal Year 1992 and \$13,766,000 in Fiscal Year 1993, over what was previously approved for Transit Police for bus security;
- e. approve a contract for the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department to provide security services for the Blue Line contingent upon the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission, within 45 days of this date providing additional funding for Transit Police bus protection for a period of time at least equal to the length of the LASD contract at the level of staffing herein specified; and
- f. direct staff to carry out a major communications program to educate the public on the role of the Transit Police in securing transit systems.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the transition period for the takeover of Blue Line security by the Transit Police is to begin January 1, 1993, concluding with the completion of the takeover on June 30, 1993 and the termination of the contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; and to establish criteria to measure the Transit Police qualifications at the beginning of the transition period.

32. Considered item arising subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried with 6 directors present, item 32a was added to the agenda.

Following discussion, action was taken as noted below:

32a. APPROVED:

- a. Development Agreement between the District and Catellus Development Corporation (Catellus) for joint development of the Gateway Center Project at Union Station; and
- b. payment of specified predevelopment costs incurred to date in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 in accordance with the provisions of the Development Agreement, payment to be made under account tracking system established by the Controller/Treasurer and to be recovered out of project financing;

form of documents subject to approval of the General Counsel.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

7. Report of the General Manager

General Manager Pegg introduced Robert G. Williams, Director of Customer Relations, who spoke about two awards received from SOCAP. One was first place received for Outstanding Consumer Programming, 1991. Another was an Award of Excellence.

10. Mr. D. Bonds, Teacher of Special Education, Los Angeles County Office of Education, spoke before the Board on the program to help special education students get jobs in the marketplace. He thanked the District for their help in providing training to these students to ride the RTD and for the preparation of a video showing these students at work and riding the RTD.

Director Villaraigosa requested staff to review the possibility of developing a program at the District to hire mentally challenged students.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, items 11 through 21 on the consent calendar were approved in one motion with six (6) directors present.

11. REJECTED non-responsive bid submitted by Mills Fence Co. and APPROVED award of contract to Ace Fence Co., City of Industry, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder under Bid No. 09-9106-C covering fence modifications for the Metro Blue Line at a total bid price of \$199,343; form of contract subject to approval of the General Counsel.

This procurement is funded under the SCRTD/LACTC Blue Line Agreement.

12. APPROVED Requisition No. 1-0990-87 and contract to Pollution Prevention International, Los Angeles, a District certified DBE firm, under RFP 91-79, covering environmental engineering consulting services for a study of a Hazardous Waste Reduction, at a total cost not to exceed \$32,000; form of contract subject to approval of the General Counsel.
13. APPROVED Requisition No. 1-7099-94 and selected O'Melveny and Myers and Ochoa & Sillas, Los Angeles, the highest ranked firms under RFP 91-77 covering Bond Counsel Services for financing on Gateway Center Project; fees to be negotiated at a cost not to exceed \$150,000; form of selection subject to approval of the General Counsel.
14. APPROVED a minor turnaround loop and layover zone modification for Lines 177 and 188 in the City of Duarte.

15. APPROVED a minor route modification to Line 610 in downtown Los Angeles, to become effective November 13, 1991.

16. Received and filed Statement of Purchases - \$5,000 through \$99,999.

17. Received and filed Treasurer's report on District's Investment of Funds for September, 1991.

18. RATIFIED bus stops and zones report as filed with the Secretary.

19. RATIFIED temporary route diversions as filed with the Secretary.

20. Received and filed Board Requests dated October 21, 1991.

21. APPROVED minutes of Board meetings held September 26 and October 10, 1991.

PERSONNEL & LEGAL COMMITTEE

22. APPROVED Requisition No. 0-0992-0129 covering non-contract medical insurance at an estimated cost of \$8,738,000, Requisition No. 0-0992-0132 covering non-contract managed mental health insurance at an estimated cost of \$199,000, Requisition No. 0-0992-0130 for non-contract dental insurance at an estimated cost of \$725,000, and Requisition No. 0-0992-0131 covering life insurance for all District employees at an estimated cost of \$1,114,000 covering the following:

- a. contract renewal with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan;
- b. contract renewal with Pacificare Health Plan;
- c. indemnity medical plan contract renewal with The Hartford Life Insurance Co., with modifications;
- d. award of contract covering a managed mental health contract with American Psych Management of California;
- e. indemnity dental plan contract renewal with The Traveler's Insurance Co., with modifications;
- f. dental panel group contract renewal with Dental Health Services (DHS);
- g. dental panel group contract renewal with Safeguard Health Plans; and
- h. contract renewal for life insurance with The Hartford Life Insurance Co.

form of documents subject to approval of the General Counsel.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

23. APPROVED Requisition 0-0992-0133 and renewal of a contract with the Standard Insurance Company of Oregon (Standard) covering non-contract long-term disability insurance at an estimated cost of \$956,000, for a one year period effective January 1, 1992; form of documents subject to approval of the General Counsel.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

EQUIPMENT, OPERATIONS & ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

24. RATIFIED filing of a Quantifying Emissions Reduction Proposal and a Liquified Natural Gas Demonstration Proposal on behalf of the District under the California Clean Air Act of 1988 and/or the Air Quality Management Plan for Fiscal Year 1992 and APPROVED acceptance and execution all necessary documents and contracts in connection with the projects; form of documents subject to approval of the General Counsel.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

25. APPROVED Requisition No. 1-3399-156 and amendment to existing contracts covering procurement of diesel fuel for an additional sixty (60) days with:

- a. Mock Resources, Irvine, for an estimated additional cost of \$2,000,000 for an estimated total cost of \$27,835,922; and
- b. Poma Distributing Co., San Bernardino, for an estimated additional cost of \$2,000,000 for an estimated total cost of \$15,301,084;

form of contract amendments subject to approval of the General Counsel.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 director present

26. APPROVED Requisition 1-9680-142 and a contract with the Association of American Railroads (AAR), covering study of Blue Line wheel/rail interface for a cost of \$107,261; form of contract subject to approval of the General Counsel.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

27. APPROVED Requisition No. 1-0994-0126 and a three year lease agreement with one (1) one-year option with Shammass Realty Inc., for lease of a 28,000 sq. ft. office building with parking for 150 to 165 cars at 1900 S. Figueroa St., as an interim facility for the Transit Police Department at a monthly rental rate of \$39,995 plus taxes, insurance and maintenance for the initial three year term and \$45,000 monthly plus taxes, insurance and maintenance for the one (1) year option period; form of documents subject to approval of the General Counsel.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

28. APPROVED:

- a. Work Order No. CN-91-0023 with the Rail Construction Corporation in the amount of \$298,830; and
- b. Requisition No. 1-9200-178 and authority to negotiate and award a contract to Bi-Tran Systems, Inc., for a total cost not to exceed \$298,830;

covering completion of software development for traffic signal work along the Metro Blue Line; form of documents subject to approval of the General Counsel.

This project funded under SCRTD/LACTC Blue Line Agreement.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

29. RECEIVED AND FILED the Federal legislative update and took the following action:

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS as noted in the General Manager's report dated October 18, 1991, with staff to review the possibility of an additional amendment for leasing of transit systems in the use of "turnkey" procurements.

SUPPORT the Alternative Fuels Initiative Act

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

ADVANCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

30. CARRIED OVER consent to a request by the City of Rancho Palos Verdes for the operation of a new fixed-route service to commence January, 1992.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

31. APPROVED cancellation of the experimental shuttle on Line 457 effective December 29, 1991.

UNANIMOUS, with 6 directors present

GENERAL ITEMS

General Manager Pegg announced that due to Thanksgiving the regular Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 28 would be rescheduled to Thursday, November 21, 1991.

33. Public comments

Appearance of C. Metour, Preventative Maintenance Services, requesting the Board's assistance in obtaining DBE status for her company. Staff indicated that the certification process is on-going and should be completed within a few days.

Appearance of J. Walsh speaking to the level of security on the buses versus that provided for light rail.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.



Helen M. Bolen
District Secretary