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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

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

May 21, 1992

Called to order at 10:30 a.m. by President Holen

Directors Present:

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

Nick Patsaouras
Carl W. Raggio (arr 10:41 am)
Gordana Swanson (arr 10:37 am)
James L. Tolbert (arr 11:03 am)
Antonio Villaraigosa

Director Absent:

Richard Alatorre

2. Considered the General Manager's report dated May 20, 1992 concerning public meetings to be held on the status of public transit in Los Angeles.

Director Storing questioned the proposed areas for the meetings indicating that the San Gabriel Valley did not appear to be included. President Holen commented that the meetings and areas would not be limited to those mentioned in the report.

Director Villaraigosa also commented that the request to staff was to develop a series of public meetings and focus groups. General Manager Pegg responded that staff is working on the structure for the focus groups. Director Villaraigosa indicated he would work with staff on this concept.

APPROVED a series of public meetings and focus groups to be held in the communities to discuss transit improvements.

Director Patsaouras spoke about the Committee of the Whole meetings that used to be held periodically in the communities and recommended that these be instituted again. This concept was unanimously recommended with seven Directors present.

UNANIMOUS, with 7 Directors present

1. Considered the General Manager's report dated May 18, 1992 concerning the Reduced Fare Program.

General Manager Pegg spoke briefly on the recommended course of action for a reduced fare through the purchase of ticket books. Staff reviewed each of the options as presented in the report. It was stated that the sale of the ticket book would not require a public hearing because there is no change in the value of the ticket.

Director Patsaouras criticized the report stating that other fare options and costing information, as requested by members of the Board, were not included. He also objected to the suggested suspension of the on-time warranty program.

Director Villaraigosa and other members of the Board raised questions concerning the added monthly operating costs. Director Swanson asked about the funding of the fare subsidy. General Manager Pegg indicated that staff is in contact with individuals in Washington and also is talking with officials at FTA. The FTA has expressed an interest in the reduced fare program. Other possible sources of funding would be the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the LACTC and the local cities.

Other sources suggested by Director Knabe were FEMA and Title IX grants and he offered his assistance in this process. Staff was requested to consider participation from the cities as a last resort due to their financial burdens.

Discussion then focused on the staff recommendation to suspend the on-time warranty program. Members of the Board objected, indicating that a proposed 2.2% change in patronage would not warrant the suspension of this highly successful program.

Director Patsaouras queried staff on the costs associated with an off-peak discount fare program and a 50 cent cash fare program. Further discussion was held regarding various elements of the proposed program, with President Holen summarizing as follows:

1. Period of time; i.e., 4 month period or 6 month period
2. Discount fare to be valid 24 hours per day, county-wide
3. Regular cash fare of \$1.10 to remain. Reduced fare available only through purchase of ticket books.
4. Transfer to be available at regular cost of 25 cents.
5. Mechanism - Books of tickets printed on different color stock and with expiration date
6. Blue Line rail service not to be included at this time.
7. Farebox recovery ratio - to be dealt with at LACTC
8. On-time warranty program to be continued

Director Tolbert then inquired if the District had sufficient equipment and manpower to implement the program. Director Patsaouras inquired about the elderly and handicapped passengers, with staff indicating that the District will meet the federal requirements.

The time frame for the reduced fare program was then addressed. Director Knabe made a motion to implement the program for the period June 1 through September 30, 1992, subject to further review.

The motion was seconded and passed, with 8 affirmative votes. Director Storing voting against the motion because he favored a longer time period, and Directors Alatorre and Swanson were absent for the vote.

In discussion of the funding for this program, it was suggested that requests for subsidy be done in an organized fashion by the President and that the municipalities be approached only as a last resort. It was also suggested that the issue of farebox recovery will be discussed at and by the LACTC. Director Fukai commented that Supervisor Hahn will, if funds are not obtained elsewhere, commit up to \$2 million for this worthwhile program.

General Manager Pegg commented that the proposed program before the Board would also include authorization to file grant applications and set up public hearings for the grant applications.

A Roll Call vote was taken on the elements of the Reduced Fare Program as stated above and the actions were approved:

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

3. Recessed to Closed Session to discuss matters of litigation at 11:30 a.m. Returned from Closed Session at 11:35 a.m. with Directors Holen, Storing, Fukai, Knabe, Patsaouras, Raggio, Swanson, Tolbert and Villaraigosa responding to Roll Call.

4. There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.


District Secretary