

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes of Special Meeting of the
Board of Directors of the District

March 12, 1976

Upon notice duly given, the Board of Directors of the Southern California Rapid Transit District met at a Special Meeting in the District Board Room, 1060 South Broadway, Los Angeles, California, at 3:15 p.m., at which time President Byron E. Cook called the meeting to order.

Directors present:

George W. Brewster
Byron E. Cook
Adelina Gregory
Marvin L. Holen

Thomas G. Neusom
Jay B. Price
Ruth E. Richter
Baxter Ward

Directors absent:

Donald Gibbs
Pete Schabarum
George Takei

Staff present:

Jack R. Gilstrap, General Manager
Richard T. Powers, General Counsel
Richard Gallagher, Manager of Rapid Transit
Ralph de la Cruz, Principal Analyst
George L. McDonald, Manager of Planning & Marketing
R. K. Kissick, Secretary
Helen M. Bolen, Assistant Secretary

Also present were the District's consultants on the Sunset Coast Line proposal, members of the public and the news media.

Resolution
No. Assigned

Adoption of Position on SCAG's proposed Interim
Agreement for Transit Coordination

With the concurrence of all members present, Director Neusom requested that Agenda Item No. 2 be considered at this time as the Rapid Transit Committee had considered this matter and had a recommendation to make to the Board concerning the District's position on Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) proposed Interim Agreement for Transit Coordination.

On motion of Director Neusom, Chairman of the Rapid Transit Committee, seconded and carried as noted below, the following resolution was adopted:

Ayes: Brewster, Cook, Gregory, Holen,
Neusom, Price, Richter, Ward

Noes: None

Absent: Gibbs, Schabarum, Takei

R-76-109

RESOLVED, that Exhibit C of the General Manager's report dated March 12, 1976, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes as Exhibit 1 be and the same is hereby adopted as the Board's position on SCAG's proposed Interim Agreement for Transit Coordination;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the General Manager be and he hereby is directed to forward this document to the Southern California Association of Governments for further deliberation by SCAG in preparing a reply to the Urban Mass Transportation Administration's letter regarding the proliferation of operating agencies.

Resolution
) No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal

General Manager Gilstrap reported that for some time now the District has had a team of expert consultants reviewing the Sunset Coast Line proposal for the purpose of assisting the Board in making the determination of whether or not to place this matter on the ballot, and called on Principal Analyst Ralph de la Cruz to present the consultants.

Mr. de la Cruz then introduced the consultants who presented their final reports as follows:

Emanuel Diamant, De Leuw, Cather & Co.

Capital and operating costs, construction phasing and feasibility and engineering factors

George Adams, Mobility Systems & Equipment Co.

Issues of right-of-way adaptability for guideway construction, hardware availability, energy requirements and maintenance facilities

Ki Suh Park, Gruen Associates, Inc.

Socioeconomic environmental and planning impact factors

Donald Green, Stanford Research Institute

Financing issues

John Curtis, District Consultant

Bus system and five-year plan

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

President Cook commented that he had heard the consultants speak on this proposal several times and he discerned a considerable amount of skepticism in their reports.

Mr. Park of Gruen Associates commented that the plan is feasible, however, Gruen Associates felt the key issue is flexibility of scope and staging.

Mr. Adams of Mobility Systems & Equipment stated that there is sufficient right-of-way in the freeway system to install such a system, how this is selected is a matter of engineering design. In terms of construction, it is definitely possible for the system to be built.

Mr. Diamant of De Leuw, Cather reported that from a physical standpoint, the concept is feasible, however, many engineering and construction issues must be resolved during preliminary engineering and design before any construction were to begin.

Director Ward spoke briefly stating that the problem in Los Angeles County is to devise a system that people will use, that they will pay for,

Resolution
) No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

and that they will vote for. He believes that it is possible to present to the voters a proposal that calls on this particular use of the freeway right-of-way. He urged that the public be allowed to decide if they want the system.

Director Ward stated that he is grateful to the RTD Board of Directors for having undertaken the studies of his plan. He asked permission to continue to work with the consultants to see what kind of a compromise financial, technical and construction program can be developed that will be satisfactory to the Board of Directors, to the Legislature and to the public. It is our obligation to present something on which the public can vote "yes" or "no." This is a large project, but the cost of inflation is staggering. We will lose about \$14-15 million a week if we delay between June and November.

There is severe criticism to the project by the City of Los Angeles; however, Director Ward stated he was hopeful that it might be possible to develop a compromise project - - part pay-as-you-go, part bond that will win the support of the

Resolution
No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

City of Los Angeles as well as other critical agencies. Whatever is done is going to have to be paid for county-wide. Many city councils have endorsed the concept of allowing the people to vote on the proposal. There are ways to place this before the people independent of the RTD Board; however, that will not guarantee success.

Director Ward moved that the RTD Board ask the Legislature to give its approval to AB-2770 with the understanding that members of the staff would go to Sacramento to comment on and discuss the needs of the RTD Board and consider revisions in the language of the ballot that would be satisfactory to the Board, and in fact, do something about the transit needs of Los Angeles County, which motion was seconded by Director Price.

President Cook stated that he has no philosophical difference with Director Ward, however, he feels that we have an obligation to be honest with the voters as to what the problems are.

Director Neusom commented that if language could be added to the proposed legislation which indicated that we would clearly at every juncture

Resolution
) No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

seek to secure the maximum funding available from the federal government, with that language to be implicit and understood, he would favor putting the matter on the ballot.

After further discussion, Director Neusom moved that Supervisor Ward's motion be amended to include a provision to seek federal funding as stated above, which motion was seconded.

After considerable discussion concerning the inclusion of a figure on Page 2 of the District's proposed amendatory language changes to AB-2770, Director Neusom moved that the limited tax bonds shall be outstanding in an amount not to exceed \$8 billion, which motion was seconded.

On a call for the question, concerning Director Neusom's amendments to the proposed language changes to AB-2770, carried as noted below, the following resolution was adopted:

Ayes: Brewster, Cook, Gregory, Holen,
Neusom, Price, Richter, Ward

Noes: None

Absent: Gibbs, Schabarum, Takei

Resolution
No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

R-76-110

WHEREAS, at the suggestion of the Board of Directors, amendatory language for AB-2770 has been developed by the District's bond counsel, the County Counsel's Office and the General Counsel which could be used to eliminate some of the specificity of the bill which had caused concern to the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, this amendatory language was considered at this Special Meeting of the Board of Directors with further amendments proposed to (1) provide that the District will continue to seek the maximum federal funding available for the completion of the project, and (2) to insert into the language of the proposed amendatory language the provision that limited tax bonds shall not be outstanding in an amount in excess of \$8 billion without further legislative authorization;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the amendatory language for AB-2770 as developed and presented to the Board of Directors at this Special Meeting be and the same is hereby adopted, with further amendments to provide that the District will continue to seek the maximum federal funding available for the completion of the project, and to further provide that limited tax bonds shall not be outstanding in an amount in excess of \$8 billion without further legislative authorization;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that if AB-2770 is passed by the Legislature, including this amendatory language, the options are kept open for the District with respect to any subsequent changes the Board desires and does not in fact commit the District to placing the Sunset Coast Line proposal on the June ballot.

Resolution
No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

On a call for the question on Director Ward's original motion, as stated on page 6 of these Minutes, carried as noted below, the following resolution was adopted:

Ayes: Brewster, Cook, Gregory, Holen,
Neusom, Price, Richter, Ward

Noes: None

Absent: Gibbs, Schabarum, Takei

R-76-111

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Southern California Rapid Transit District hereby requests that the State Legislature give its approval to AB-2770 with such amendatory changes as suggested by this Board of Directors on this date under Resolution No. R-76-110.

Director Neusom complimented the excellent team of consultants used by the District for a job well done in the evaluation of the Sunset Coast Line proposal and moved that assuming the successful passage of AB-2770 by the State Legislature, the District would enter into further contracts with the consultant firms for assistance in developing a workable proposal, which motion was seconded.

On a vote, carried as noted below, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolution
) No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

Ayes: Brewster, Cook, Gregory, Holen,
Neusom, Price, Richter, Ward

Noes: None

Absent: Gibbs, Schabarum, Takei

R-76-112

RESOLVED, that upon successful passage of AB-2770 by the State Legislature, the Board of Directors of the Southern California Rapid Transit District does hereby declare its intention to enter into further contracts with the consultant firms presently retained by the District for assistance in developing a workable modification of the Sunset Coast Line proposal.

(Director Neusom departed the meeting at 5:39 p.m.)

President Cook recessed the meeting at 5:40 p.m. and the Board reconvened at 5:46 p.m. with Directors Brewster, Cook, Gregory, Holen, Price, Richter and Ward responding to Roll Call. Directors Gibbs, Neusom, Schabarum and Takei were absent.

On motion of Director Cook, seconded and carried as noted below, the General Manager was authorized to have the consultants, including the bond counsel, travel to Sacramento as necessary to make a presentation to the Legislative Committee, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolution
) No. Assigned

Receive Consultant's Final Reports on the Sunset
Coast Line Proposal (continued)

Ayes: Brewster, Cook, Gregory, Holen,
Price, Richter, Ward

Noes: None

Absent: Gibbs, Neusom, Schabarum, Takei

R-76-113

RESOLVED, that the General Manager be and he hereby is authorized to have the team of consultants, including the bond counsel, retained by the District to evaluate the Sunset Coast Line Proposal, travel to Sacramento for the purpose of making a presentation to the Legislative Committee.

Adoption of Position on AB-1246

Director Price moved that AB-1246 be amended to include that no appointing or electing authority would have its numerical representation on the present RTD Board reduced on the new transit commission, and that the two cities that receive statutory authority to make appointments to the new transit commission by the Mayor, or by the Mayor with the corresponding city council approval, should not be voting members on the City Selection Committee of the League of California Cities, as is the present case with Los Angeles where the Mayor appoints its present two members

Adoption of Position on AB-1246 (continued)

with council approval and do not vote on the City Selection Committee's four corridor representatives and which should be maintained in the new commission and not reduced from four corridor directors to two directors; which proposed amendments would in effect raise the membership of the new commission from eleven to thirteen, which motion was seconded.

Director Holen made a substitute motion recommending that this Board go on record as favoring that AB-1246 be assigned to a Joint Assembly and Senate Committee for public hearings and to be brought back later in the year, and further recommending that a Committee of the RTD Board be authorized to work with the Joint Committee to amend the Bill.

General Manager Gilstrap commented that he did not feel that such a resolution from this Board would have any effect at this point in time and urged the Board to adopt the conceptual changes discussed with the author of the bill at the Special Meeting held on March 9. Director Holen then reported that as the Bill is now written supervisorial appointees to the commission must be elected officials

Resolution
No. Assigned

Adoption of Position on AB-1246 (continued)

and he requested that the RTD Board also request that the supervisorial appointees can be elected officials and/or citizen members. Director Price then added these two suggestions to his motion which was concurred in by the second, and carried as noted below, with the following resolution being adopted:

Ayes: Brewster, Cook, Gregory, Holen,
Price, Richter, Ward

Noes: None

Absent: Gibbs, Neusom, Schabarum, Takei

R-76-114

WHEREAS, on March 3, 1976, under Resolution No. R-76-105, the Board of Directors rescinded previous action opposing Assembly Bill 1246; and

WHEREAS, the District has suggested conceptual changes to AB-1246 which were discussed with the author of the Bill at a Special Meeting held on March 9, 1976, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors further recommends amendments to the Bill to provide for four city selection committee members on the commission with the two cities receiving statutory authority to make appointments not be voting members of the City Selection Committee, and to further not restrict supervisorial appointees to elected officials only;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Manager be and he hereby is directed to prepare a position paper on AB-1246 listing these suggested conceptual changes and to present this position paper to the Board of Directors for possible adoption.

Resolution
No. Assigned

Appearance of Rene Wilson - League of Women Voters

Mrs. Rene Wilson appeared before the Board and presented a statement from the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County in support of the Sunset Coast Line proposal which "urges the District to provide a chance for the LA County voters to examine the SCL Plan and decide at the polls whether or not they wish to make this kind of commitment to the future of their region."

A reporter's transcript of the meeting is filed in the District Secretary's Office.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. G. ...", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the words "Assistant Secretary" are printed in a serif font.

Assistant Secretary