

MINUTES

San Fernando Valley Service Sector Governance Council

Regular Meeting

Recreation Park Multipurpose Room (*)
208 Park Avenue
San Fernando, CA 91340

Called to Order at 6:30 p.m.

Council Members present:

Kymerleigh Richards, Vice Chair
Richard Arvizu
Joan H. Leonard
Ara Najarian
Jesus R. Ochoa
Brad Rosenheim

Officers:

Gary Spivack, Acting General Manager in
the absence of Richard Hunt, General
Manager
Christina Lumba-Gamboa, Council
Secretary

(*) Meeting location only for this month.

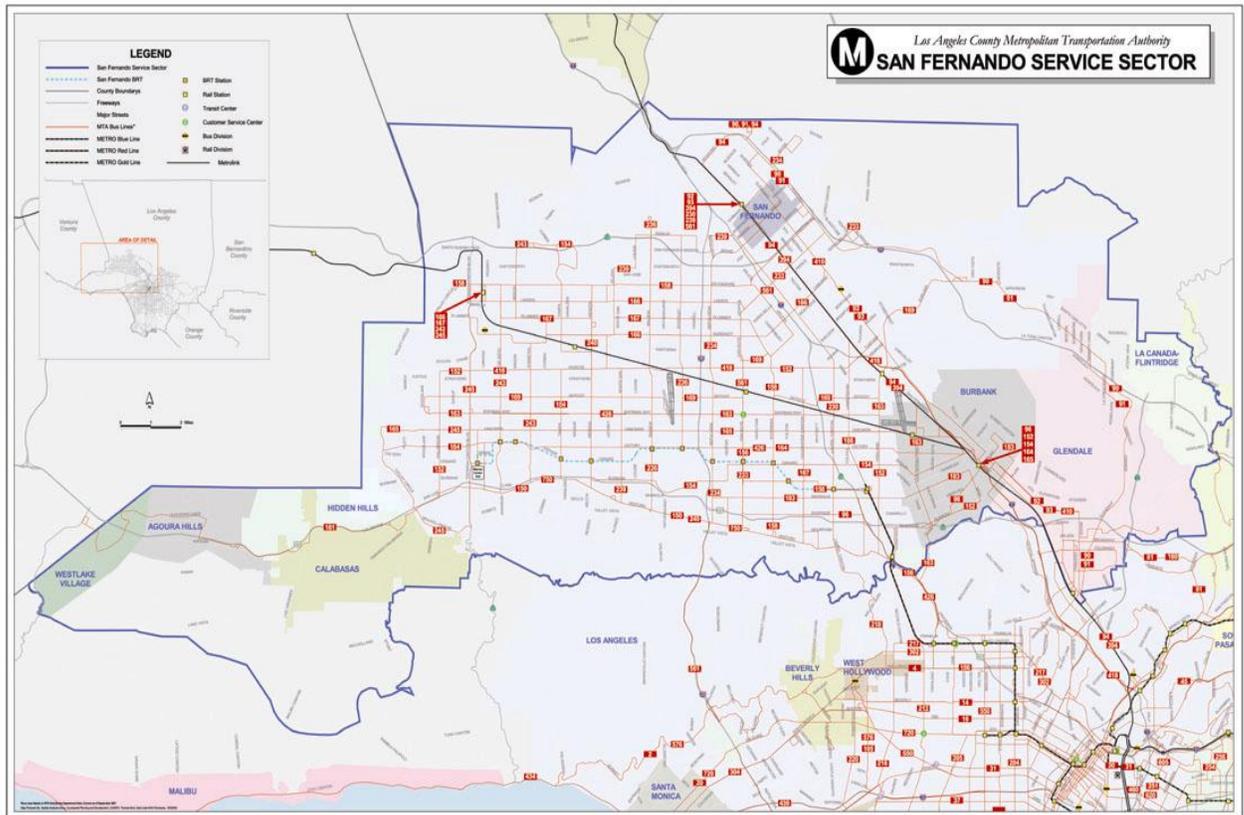


Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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METRO SAN FERNANDO VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

1) Area of responsibility:



2) The Governance Council is exclusively responsible for planning routes and schedules for Tier 1, 2, and 3 bus lines within the San Fernando Service Sector (except Metro Rapid lines and Metro Liner). Tier 1, 2, and 3 bus lines in the San Fernando Valley are:

**Lines: 90/91, 92, 94/394, 96C, 150/240, 152, 154, 156, 158, 161, 163,
164/165, 166, 167C, 168, 169, 183/234, 230/239, 233, 236/237, 242/243,
244/245, 353/363 and 645. (C = Contract Service)**

Metro Rapid Lines **750 & 761** and Metro Liner **901** are **NOT** under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Governance Council but jurisdiction may be exercised with the concurrence of other sector or Corporate.

- 3) The Governance Council is responsible for studying and planning service to improve efficiency within Metro San Fernando Valley, making recommendations to the MTA board regarding service issues, working with transit planners and local authorities and transit operators to ensure coordination of service and holding public hearings to gain input on proposed changes.
- 4) The Governance Council is **NOT** responsible for fare and pass structures, new project construction, or Metro Rail.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. APPROVED **Minutes** of Regular Governance Council Meeting held March 1, 2006.

3. RECEIVED Public Comment.

- Bart Reed, Executive Director of Transit Coalition suggested that the existing bike racks be replaced with a version that will accommodate 3 bikes.

Council Member Richards requested staff to report back on METRO Bike Rack Policy.

4. Chair's remarks - NONE

5. RECEIVED **report** of Gary Spivack, Acting General Manager.

- Performance Indicators

Acting General Manager, Gary Spivack reported that performance indicators for the month of February remain positive overall. Accident rates fell below the 3.0 level, year to date has dropped to 3.11 for Divisions 8 and 15. On-Time Performance fell below 65% .

Operator shortages continues. Operator Assignment Ratio fell to 1.13 from 1.18. Mr. Spivack added that the Service Sector will likely see an increase in overtime use and budget surplus will begin to erode because of the overtime. Mean Miles between Mechanical Failures and Road Calls improved dramatically.

- Orange Line Update

Mr. Spivack reported on the Great Pumpkin Half Marathon project proposed by Assemblyman Levine which was presented to the MTA

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Board for consideration. There was an extensive discussion by Council Members', and members of the public addressed the Council stating the disruption of service is not in the best interest of customers that use the Orange Line regularly on weekends.

Council Member Richards concurred and said disruption of Orange Line service on the proposed date is not the best way to celebrate the first anniversary of the Orange Line.

Bart Reed, Executive Director of Transit Coalition distributed a map showing where the marathon would take place and stated the marathon and the traffic on the valley streets would impact low income customers and suggested that the 101FW be used in lieu of the Orange Line Transitway.

APPROVED Council Member Rosenheim's motion to support in concept, Assemblyman Levine's proposal regarding the San Fernando Valley Great Pumpkin Half-Marathon pilot project using the Metro Orange Line (MOL) alignment in part, along with other facilities along the right-of-way and to include a San Fernando Governance Council member in planning the event to minimize impact to the San Fernando Valley transit riders.

- Regular Board Meeting Update

The Board approved the expansion of the San Fernando Valley Sector modular facility and lease extension. This allows the Service Sector to locate a second trailer for use by the Los Angeles Sheriff Department at the Chatsworth office. The recent opening of Metro's Orange Line and subsequent increase in assigned LASD personnel has exceeded the capacity of the existing modular facility. This contract modification permits the addition of adequate and necessary locker rooms, report-writing room, storage, armory, and administrative offices to accommodate additional LASD personnel recently assigned to the Metro Orange Line.

- Customer Complaints

Customer complaints declined to a rate of 2.63 per 100,000 boardings. Mr. Spivack said that the leading types of complaints were "no shows" at 2.32%, "late buses" at 15.16% and "early buses" at 3.67%. Divisions 8 and 15 accumulated 111 complaints and 7 commendations.

6. RECEIVED AND FILED **Budget Update** by Kathy Drayton, Finance and Administration Manager.

Ms. Drayton reported the sector budget to date has a slight surplus of \$6.41 million due to lower PL/PD and Workers compensation costs.

7. RECEIVED AND FILED report on concept proposal of service **extensions of the Orange Line East from North Hollywood and West from Warner Center** by Gary Spivack, Acting General Manager.

Mr. Spivack reported in detail on the possible extensions of the METRO Orange Line both east and west from its current termini in North Hollywood and Warner Center respectively. Staff was requested to review current plans and provide an overview of some of the alternative extension concepts to the east as well as along the US 101 corridor to the west from Warner Center as well as north along the Canoga corridor to the Chatsworth station.

Based on a comment from Mr. Paul Dyson, one such easterly extension from North Hollywood would be via the as yet unimproved Metro ROW adjacent to the North Hollywood bus terminal to Vineland Avenue and then via surface streets to the Bob Hope Airport in the City of Burbank. Mr. Spivack noted that the City of Burbank was pursuing a grant to construct a new bus terminal at the Bob Hope Airport on property adjacent to the current AMTRAK/ Metro Link station.

Mr. Spivack stated the expansion of the Metro Orange Line across Lankershim Boulevard at this time does not appear to be warranted. However, with the major construction projects currently underway around the North Hollywood station, creating a dedicated right of way to facilitate bus connections from the east (e.g. MTA Lines 152, 183, Burbank Shuttle) would improve the travel time of these services, eliminate circuitous routings into the North Hollywood stations, and ease traffic congestion by limiting some bus turning movements at Chandler and Lankershim Boulevards as well as at Magnolia and Lankershim. The paving and use of the right of way should be sought aggressively by the Council.

Furthermore, he said relocating the Metro Orange Line to the east side of Lankershim is not recommended given the high level of bus and traffic congestion already experienced at the North Hollywood Station.

Mr. Spivack suggested the Council pursue a direct connection of the Metro Red Line subway under Lankershim Boulevard to the Orange Line Station

to facilitate the goal of seamless transportation, and to improve safety conditions for people crossing Lankershim Boulevard to get to the Orange Line Station.

He further suggested the Council consider reviving the Subscription bus program to meet the needs of long distance travel in the area that cannot be met by extension of the Metro Orange Line alone. Subscription bus provides opportunities to employers (e.g. Universal City, Burbank Media District, Jet Propulsion Laboratory) to establish group travel opportunities that provide many, but limited, access points with a single destination. He said staff might consider additional regional connections to the Universal City station and seek to use this mechanism to improve the frequency and vitality of existing local services to Burbank proper.

Mr. Spivack recommended the following potential projects and will work with appropriate MTA departments for inclusion in the requisite plans and programs of the agency:

1. Construction of a street under-crossing from the Orange Line Station to the Red Line Station at North Hollywood.
2. Paving of the right of way from the North Hollywood station to Vineland Avenue, construction of street traffic controls to permit exclusive bus access for the local and city services to enter the North Hollywood bus terminal.
3. Request the Countywide Planning Department to undertake a study of the costs to provide a direct link to the Chatsworth Station for the Orange Line busway as well as construct a larger parking facility at that site.
4. Seek to participate in a proposed service enhancement for the Ventura Metro link line operated by the SCRRA. Expansion of intercept parking lots adjacent to existing stations is also recommended.
5. Consider, through Metro Connections, recommending participation in construction of an inter-modal transit facility at the Bob Hope Airport that would permit direct connection to the passenger terminals. The City of Burbank and Airport Authority would need to address internal circulation issues.
6. Seek modifications in selected LADOT and MTA services to improve connections particularly from the Conejo Valley and Ventura to Warner Center.
7. Consider the development of a subscription bus services program to enhance connections throughout the Valley, from Ventura County, supported by employers and operated by MTA, LADOT or others.

8. Suggest other options to be studied by Countywide Planning or Operations planning that would fit within the parameters of the Board adopted 101 corridor study program.

Council Member Rosenheim requested staff to agendize the extension of the Orange Line westerly towards Thousand Oaks as well as to consider some of the other recommendations in the current report at the next Council meeting and to invite the Long Range Planning staff to participate in the discussion.

8. RECEIVED status update of **Line 234 brochure** by Michael Brewer, Service Development Manager.

Mike Brewer presented an update on service changes. He indicated that Line 234 brochure concerning the new Sepulveda Rapid received few comments. Implementation of Line 734 from Sylmar station to Mission College will be replaced by a shuttle. The shuttle could be operated by the MTA or by a contractor.

Council Members thanked staff for conducting the study.

9. RECEIVED oral **Transit Service Policy** update by Stephen Fox and Isaac Lim, Transportation Planning.

Mr. Lim stated that Appendix E of the Transit Service Policy is still undergoing significant review by the Legal Department. The appendix calls for implementation of a variety of mitigation measures in response to service changes but doesn't specify a means or mechanism to fund or make a finding that the agency's and sector's obligations have been met. Staff was asked to update the Council on the outcome of the review.

10. SCHEDULED Special Council Meeting Metro Connections Workshop to review proposed routes and schedule changes in San Fernando Valley.

The Special Council Meeting Metro Connections Workshop is scheduled on May 17, 2006 at 6:30 p. m. at Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center.

11. **DISCUSSED meeting frequency and location of off-site Governance Council meeting.**

APPROVED RICHARDS motion that the Governance Council meeting regularly take place at the Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center, Van Nuys except for special events.

12. **RECEIVED oral report Community Relations Issues** by Marta Mack, Community Relations Manager.

Marta Mack from Community Relations gave a brief report on outreach opportunities for the Council. She said that she is working on getting the Council on the agenda for the Alliance of Valley Councils which would allow Council Members to meet and confer with many neighborhood councils at one time. Ms. Mack also announced a program for “bike to work day” on May 18th which will be headquartered at the Winnetka station on the Orange Line. She handed out sponsorship information to the Council members. She reported that 30,000 safety videos of the Orange Line in English and Spanish will be released to schools, churches, and will also be distributed door to door via a “walkman” contractor to people who live within 1/5 of a mile of the line.

13. **Council Members Closing Remarks.**

- Council Member Najarian announced the City of Glendale is doing a comprehensive transportation plan and will consider some of the items in the extension report.
- Mr. Ochoa asked the Council to continue to search for activities that would allow outreach to the community.

Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



Prepared by: Christina Lumba-Gamboa
Council Secretary