

Wednesday, September 5, 2012

6:30-8:00PM

Minutes

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
SERVICE COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Marvin Braude Constituent Center
6262 Van Nuys Boulevard
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Called to Order at: 6:32 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Kymerleigh Richards, Chair

Dr. Richard Arvizu

Gary Bric

Michael Cano

Dina Garcia

Officers:

Jon Hillmer, Director Service Councils

Wilbur Babb, Community Relations Mgr.

Henry Gonzalez, Council Comm. Rel.

Mgr.

Dolores Ramos, Council Admin. Analyst

Collette Langston, Board Secretary Office



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

1. PLEDGE of Allegiance
2. APPROVED **Minutes for August 1, 2012 meeting.**
3. RECEIVED **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair received a letter from a constituent from the Westwood area. The letter is in regard to Measure J (the extension of Measure R) and the possibility of it not passing when it is up for majority vote. The letter suggested that the Council support a Motion to repeal Robbins' Law.

The Robbins' Law is a law that prevents rail from being on the Orange Line Corridor east of Hazeltine Avenue unless it is underground. Repealing this law would allow rail on the corridor at ground level.

The Council has no jurisdiction over rail and this is a matter for the Board of Directors. The letter points out that something is needed to make the voters happy about voting for Measure J and the Sepulveda Pass Light Rail Line is likely to be the last Measure R project to be constructed. Allowing rail at ground level through this corridor would give the voters of San Fernando a project to look forward to with Measure J.

The Chair stated that if there is significant interest, the Council could pass a resolution advocating anything that would improve capacity on the Orange Line and leave it open ended. The resolution can advocate for the implementation of the proposed 588 Express Line through the Sepulveda Pass at the earliest possible date. The Chair offered to write a resolution to be considered at the October Council meeting.

Mr. Bric stated that bringing this back is fine but would like more information regarding Robbins' Law before anything is decided.

4. RECEIVED **Public Comment**

- Jose Palma lives in North Hollywood and this is his first visit to a San Fernando Valley Service Council meeting. He wants to learn what Metro is doing for his community and plans to continue attending meetings to educate himself with the current happenings with local transit.
- Vince Garofalo spoke on 3 points. First, last Monday he was on Victory and Sepulveda and was passed by a bus. Second, last Friday there were three gang related incidents he witnessed. Third, he requested that Line 290 be reviewed because he feels that there are a lot of businesses on Foothill that are losing money due to the Line's timetable.

5. RECEIVED update on **Sepulveda Pass Corridor Systems Planning Study**, David Mieger, DEO, Countywide Planning

The Sepulveda Pass is one of 12 Measure R transit corridors approved for study/construction by voters in 2008. Metro's LRTP includes \$2.468 billion (escalated) in the third decade of the project.

The project would extend 30 miles; 12 miles in San Fernando Valley, 8 miles on the Sepulveda Pass and 10 miles to connect the Westside to LAX. Potential transit connections would include Metrolink's Antelope Valley and Ventura Lines, the East San Fernando Valley North/South Corridor, Metro Orange Line, the Westside subway extension, Expo Line phase 2, Crenshaw/LAX LRT project, the Airport Metro Connector and Metro Green Line. The project also encompasses current I-405 improvement projects that are adding a northbound HOV lane and increasing the capacity of southbound lanes during peak periods.

The lower cost concepts that are within the Measure R budget include an at-grade BRT and managed lanes with BRT. The higher cost concepts, which require supplemental funding, long-term phasing or other delivery strategies, include an aerial viaduct, toll tunnel, a fixed guideway rail tunnel, toll tunnels and rail tunnels.

Mr. Cano suggested including the Antelope Valley in future studies as well as looking at options including reversible HOV lanes, a monorail or an elevated LRT lane.

Mr. Bric questioned the safety of having a bus run on the shoulder during peak periods.

Mr. Mieger responded that although not ideal, it is an option to have buses run along the shoulder as a relatively inexpensive option to move people through stopped traffic.

- Rolando Chavarria commented that he likes transit options and hopes to see one of the options come to fruition quickly.

6. DISCUSSED **Antonovich Motion for Regional Airport – Rail Connectivity Plan**, Chris Haskell, Transportation Planning Manager

The Motion was introduced at the July 2012 Board meeting by Board Chair Antonovich. The airports under study include Palmdale, Burbank, Los Angeles International, Long Beach and Ontario airports.

The Motion requests the following:

- A. Implementation Plan for rail connections to the 5 airports
- B. Review and analysis of current transit options
- C. Input from FAA and SCAG on potential funding and support
- D. Report on expediting the LAX airport connector to open concurrent with the new Crenshaw/LAX project
- E. Overview of coordination and funding required from partner agencies

We are currently developing an inventory of airport transit connections at various stages of development.

- A. Existing
- B. Under Construction/Environmentally-Cleared
- C. In Environmental Review/Preliminary Planning Phase
- D. LRTP Strategic Plan Projects, e.g.:
 - i. Orange Line Extension to Burbank/Glendale
 - ii. Gold Line Eastern Extension
 - iii. Green Line Extension south to San Pedro/Long Beach
 - iv. West Santa Ana Branch
 - v. Crenshaw Line Extension north to Mid-City

Ms. Garcia pointed out that when addressing these connections, accessibility also needs to be considered.

Mr. Cano explained that Los Angeles County has numerous transportation systems but because they are not all under Metro's jurisdiction, they tend to be ignored. This is an issue that needs to be rectified to better connect our systems and alleviate the traffic that is created around the airports.

Mr. Bric requested clarification regarding how passengers would get from the Metrolink stop to the Burbank Airport.

Mr. Cano clarified that the Burbank Airport would have a shuttle that would meet every train that stopped at the Hollywood Way station.

7. CARRIED OVER: Discussion of **Non-Smoking Ordinances Near Bus Stops**, Jon Hillmer, Director

8. RECEIVED **Director's Report**, Jon Hillmer, Director

Performance Report

- On-time Performance
 - San Fernando Valley: 82.5%
 - Target: 80.0%
- Complaints per 100,000 passengers
 - San Fernando Valley: 3.63
 - Target: 2.20

- Miles between mechanical road calls
 - San Fernando Valley: 4,378
 - Target: 3,900
- Clean Bus
 - San Fernando Valley: 8.96
 - Target: 8.5
- Accidents per 100,000 miles
 - San Fernando Valley: 2.46
 - Target: 3.10
- Monthly ridership
 - San Fernando: 5,050,000
 - Target: 4,920,000
- Bus station cleanliness evaluation scores
 - Burbank Station: 8.4, down 0.1
 - North Hollywood Red Line Station: 8.6, up 1.5
 - Universal Red Line Station: 8.7, up 2.2

Mr. Cano suggested that information regarding the number of transfers from Metrolink and Amtrak service to Chatsworth would be valuable for future service planning. He mentioned the popularity of the bike path extension and inquired about capacity. Most buses can hold two bikes and are carrying the maximum. The Orange Line can carry three, and is also frequently at capacity. As efforts to integrate bicycle use and connections into BRT and LRT, bicycle capacity will have to be addressed in the future.

9. RECEIVED **Chair and Council Member Comments**

Mr. Cano spoke about the implementation of the North County Transporter as a new service that is running from Palmdale to Santa Clarita with transfers to Metrolink and Santa Clarita Transit into North Hollywood Station.

Ms. Garcia wanted to make the Council aware that riders that have little or no use of their hands have trouble going through the gates at the stations because the gates close too quickly.

Mr. Bric thanked the staff for their thorough reports.

Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke ending in an arrowhead pointing to the right. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Collette Langston, Council Secretary