

Monday, August 9, 2010

5:00 P.M.

MINUTES

San Gabriel Valley Sector Governance Council

Regular Meeting

Metro San Gabriel Valley Sector Office
3449 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731
3rd Floor, Council Chambers Room

Called to Order at 5:02 p.m.

Sector Representatives Present:

Alex Gonzalez, Chair
Rosie Vasquez, Vice Chair
Roger Chandler
Harry Baldwin
Albert Huang
Steven Ly
Joseph Mosca

Officers/Managers:

Jon Hillmer, Director Governance Council
David Hershenson, Communications
Relations Manager
Scott Page, Service Development Manager
Suzanne Handler, Executive Secretary

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Per Mr. Gonzalez's suggestion, the Council Members present introduced themselves to the audience.

3. Public Comment

Mr. Gonzalez invited Daniel Garcia to speak to the Council and audience about his public comment at this time in the meeting's agenda.

Mr. Garcia invited everyone, Council Members and audience members, to attend the "2010 Disability Awareness Day" taking place on Saturday, September 18, 2010, 10:00 to 2:00, at the Centro Maravilla Service Center Parking Lot, 4716 East Cesar Chavez Avenue in Los Angeles. He brought several brochures with him, which were passed around and available on a table throughout the evening.

Mr. Garcia explained this event is a great opportunity for people to know the community of people with disabilities. Also, it is good for MTA to get to know this community, and the community can learn about MTA and getting around in Los Angeles

Mr. Baldwin asked if that was close to the Gold Line stop. Ms. Vasquez said it was about four blocks, but it is closer to the 68. Mr. Garcia said it would be about six blocks to walk from the Gold Line.

Next, Mr. Gonzalez invited Mr. Steven Michaels to address the Board. Mr. Michaels expressed his concern over several years about the 266 line, Rosemead-Lakewood line. The buses seem to be very old on that line; the air conditioning is down on the hottest days, and the buses are packed. In addition, the suspension is bad on many of the buses, and people, including himself, hit walls and things when going over bumps.

To keep his comments brief, Mr. Michaels documented via a time line some bad experiences that happened on the 266 the previous week. He invited the Council Members to read the time line over at a later time, and contact him via his contact information on the document. He wanted the Board to be aware of the situation, but not take too much time of the meeting agenda.

Mr. Michaels offered to answer any questions at the moment. Mr. Gonzalez suggested Mr. Hillmer will have staff research his document and get back to him.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST
WITHIN COUNCIL'S SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

4. APPROVED Minutes of Governance Council Meeting held July 12, 2010

A motion was made to approve the July 12, 2010, Minutes. Then an audience member said he saw a mistake in his comments. He said he would fill out a form. The July 12, 2010, Minutes were then approved with the noted corrections to be made.

5. RECEIVED Director's Report, Jon Hillmer

Mr. Jon Hillmer, Director of Governance Council, gave his Director's Report to the Board. To keep it brief so the public hearing event would have plenty of time available, he skipped directly to the chart information.

The "On-Time Performance" category for the system which has a target of 75 percent improved to 73.3 percent in June, but it is still lagging behind target about 2 ½ points.

The "Complaints" category had a target of 2.6, and the year-to-date was 2.61. Mr. Hillmer said he would claim victory on that item as well as doing better.

The "Miles Between Road Calls" category is still a challenging category. Target is 3,500, and year-to-date is just under 3,200.

The "Accidents" category is a good standard and just about made the target of 3.2 over 100,000 miles with year-to-date. Metro is going in the right direction

Ridership is still flat. It has not lost much in the last six or eight months, but it is still about 10% below budget since last year.

On-Time Performance has improved to 76 percent year-to-date, 73 percent on average; but there was a possibility that there was an error appearing on one of the charts.

The category of "Complaints per 100,000 miles" in Division 3 is doing great, while Division 9 is not doing so well. Year-to-date is 2.9, and the target is 2.6

In the category of "Miles Between Road Calls," Metro hit it out of the ballpark with the year ending at about 4,400 miles. Target was 3,500 and year-to-date is 3,700.

“Accidents” is another category where the San Gabriel Valley is trending upward at 3 per 100,000, which is still below target year-to-date of 2.5. Ridership of San Gabriel Valley mirrors the system as it is relatively flat and below the target

Mr. Hillmer pointed out on the chart for the average on-time performance, there is an error, the last tick down for San Gabriel Valley. It has it going to 74, but it actually is 76 percent. It actually ended up a little below the white arrow line on the chart. He did not know how the error happened, but it will be corrected.

The category of “Customer Complaints” has generally hovered around the target line and has been noticeably down in April, May, and June. Mr. Hillmer said Metro will find out what discussions occur about the July fare increases.

For the category of “Miles Between Road Calls” shows the San Gabriel Division 3 is doing exceptionally well above the 4,000 target, and Metro is already a month and half into the fiscal year.

For the category of “Bus Accidents,” the bus route trend has been upward but still below the target. So it is good in that it is below target, but not good as the trend is moving in the wrong direction.

Regarding ridership trends, the information shows that with the exception of the dip system-wide in January, February ridership has been generally flat. That is fairly good news given the state of the economy. Same thing applies to the San Gabriel Valley. The trend is very flat.

Mr. Hillmer showed the chart that is shown once a month in terms of the Silver Line, which he personally rides into downtown for work every day and goes to the Artesia Transit Center to pick up the 246 line when he goes to the Carson Community Center. Ridership dipped a tad in June, but it still is not too bad.

Mr. Hillmer showed the trends for all rail lines. All lines except the Gold Line continue the slight dip in ridership; however the Gold Line continues to inch up. The chart shows the red line is flat for this period of time, but the Gold Line is moving up.

Mr. Baldwin asked Mr. Hillmer if the Red Line is a combination of red and purple line. Mr. Hillmer said yes, but the purple line is the branch that goes to Western. It provides short-line service for the rail line, and the purple line will be the line that is extended if it is extended to the sea.

Line Rides:

Mr. Hillmer explained that the San Gabriel Valley Governance Council took some rides on the 177, the Gold Line, and the 620. The Members took the rides on two different dates, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Venue location change during construction:

Mr. Hillmer reminded people the next meeting will be at City Hall in El Monte. His staff is putting together a brochure with a map and how to get to the meeting. In addition, at next month's meeting, staff will be stationed at this location and at the El Monte Station, so if somebody comes to the wrong buildings by mistake, Metro will get them on the right bus. If they have already paid for the fare, they will not be charged at that point.

Mr. David Garcia, audience member, inquired about Item 5 on the agenda about touring Metro facilities.

Meet and Confer Meeting with Art Leahy, September 30:

Mr. Hillmer said there will be a meet-and-confer with Art Leahy September 30th, tentatively scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Following that event, Mr. Hillmer will organize a tour for new Governance Council Members or any Governance Council Member that wishes to participate. The tour includes the Gateway Building, the DOC, Customer Relations, Planning Department, and then going across the street to the Regional Repair Center and then taking a bus to go to Division and go through the Division Transportation Maintenance House-Washer. The tour is basically an orientation for our new members.

Mr. David Garcia explained that he wanted the Board to please open their eyes and see how accessible things are for a wheelchair. He wanted them to ask themselves: How is the ADA compliance in there? He hoped during the facility tour, the members would open their eyes and understand how the disabled people feel, and about being in compliance.

An audience member inquired about the status of the El Monte Station. Mr. Hillmer said he would speak to that person after the meeting.

6. RECEIVED Update from David Hershenson on Blue Ribbon Committee

Mr. Hershenson, in the interest of brevity and maintaining the pace of the meeting, reported the Board did get a report on Blue Ribbon Committee. He explained originally they were supposed to receive a presentation from the Operations Committee, but, unfortunately, that committee meeting was canceled due to lack of a quorum.

The Board gave several “thank you’s” for the hard work and valuable work they did. The only real discussion that took place was initiated by Ms. Boyce (phonetic), and she asked about cooperation of the bus riders. Also, she further asked about participation with municipal operators, and asked about going to talk to everyone about it.

Mr. Hillmer and Mr. Hershenson wanted to start up meetings in the San Gabriel Valley and do them for all the regions and see what the interest level is and how the Governance Councils can work together. He explained it is not a matter of just sitting on the Council, which is important, but working with them so we can look at all bus services, not just Metro.

Lastly, Mr. Hershenson explained part of the goals of the Blue Ribbon Committee was to take a look at changing some things and incorporating them into the bylaws. Again, Mr. Hillmer and Mr. Hershenson are working on that, and hopefully they will have an initial report on that in September for the Council.

Mr. Gonzalez asked if there were any municipal operator questions. There were none.

7. Chair and Council Member Comments:

Mr. Gonzalez stated due to the public hearing following this meeting, this meeting was brief. He did ask for people to attend the public hearing following and to participate in it.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 5:22 p.m.

Prepared by:

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