

Minutes

SOUTH BAY CITIES
SERVICE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

Friday, November 14, 2014
9:30 - 11:30 AM

Inglewood City Hall
Conference Room A
One Manchester Blvd.
Inglewood, CA 90301

All Metro meetings are held in ADA accessible facilities. Meeting location served by Metro Lines: 40, 111/311, 115, 211/215, 212/312, 607, and Rapid Line 740.

Called to Order at 9:33am

Council Representatives:
Ralph Franklin, Chair
Devon Deming
Angie Reyes English
Jack Gabig
Elaine Jeng
Roye Love
Don Szerlip

Officers:
Jon Hillmer, Director Service Councils
Bronwen Trice Keiner, Community Relations Ofcr.
Dolores Ramos, Council Admin Analyst
Christina Goins, Board Secretary Office
Henry Gonzalez, Council Comm. Rel. Mgr.
Scott Greene, Transportation Planning Mgr.

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Մետրոյի մասին հայերեն լեզվով տեղեկություններ ստանալու համար, խնդրում ենք զանգահարել այս հեռախոսահամարով՝ 323-466-3876

Для получения информации о Metro на русском языке, пожалуйста, позвоните по указанному ниже телефонному номеру: 323-466-3876

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메트로(Metro) 정보를 [한국어]로 알아보시려면, 아래 번호로 전화하십시오: 323-466-3876

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Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. ROLL Called and Introductions made
3. SAFETY Tip, Jon Hillmer

When entering a bus do not attempt to make continued conversation with the operator; allow them to concentrate on driving. If a patron feels unstable on their feet, they should feel free to ask the bus operator to wait for them to settle in their seat before taking off and ask for assistance if needed.

4. APPROVED Minutes from October 10, 2014 Meeting
5. PUBLIC Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

J.K. Drummond commented that Bus #110 61 and 11062 no longer have the horrible blue interior night lights as they were replaced with white interior lights. He asked that security be present at the Harbor Gateway Transit Station after 9pm. There is a bus loop in Pasadena that doesn't show on the map. The Line 720 map doesn't show Line 762 at Goodrich Blvd. or Line 534 at Beverly Glen. He complained that Access Services bars patrons from riding until their complaints are adjudicated. A friend of his was sexually molested by an Access Services driver, and was barred from using the service until the complaint was resolved.

6. RECOGNITION of Division 18 Bus Operators Chrystal Hopper and LaTanya West, Lilia Montoya, Transportation Operations Manager and Jon Hillmer, Director

Line 120 Operator LaTanya West saw a crying 2 year old crossing Imperial Highway at State by himself, removed him from harm's way, and flagged a police officer for assistance. Line 207 Operator Chrystal Hopper saw an unsupervised toddler running into traffic on Vermont at Monroe. She stopped the bus and cared for the child until the police arrived. Ms. Hopper added that Ms. Montoya deserves an award for being an outstanding and caring manager.

7. RECEIVED Presentation on south Los Angeles CicLAvia, Tafari Bayne, CicLAvia Board Member

CicLAvia engages with people to transform their relationship with communities and makes the streets safe for people to walk, skate, play, and bike. The events consist of making streets car-free allowing people to connect to public spaces, public transit, the environment, and each other while promoting health and local businesses. The next event will take place in South Los Angeles on December 7, 2014 from Leimert Park to Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd and will end on Central Ave.

Councilmember English commented that Councilmen Bernard Parks and Curren Price of District 9 look forward to having this event in South Los Angeles.

Councilmember Deming asked if CicLAvia TAP cards are available. Mr. Bayne replied that they are available online and will be available at CicLAvia booths on the day of the event.

Councilmember Szerlip asked how many events are held per year and if the routes change. Mr. Bayne replied that historically three events have been scheduled per year but it will increase to 4 events in 2015. Generally there is one event based downtown and the other events in different regions. While working with municipalities can present challenges to organize a first time event in their region, it has become easier with experience. CicLAvia is continually looking to stage or assist with the technical production or assistance for the staging of regional events. Councilmember Szerlip encouraged CicLAvia to coordinate with the South Bay Blue Zones project which promotes healthy communities to organize an event.

Chair Franklin asked how events are paid for, if merchants along the routes are given proper notice, and if there is sufficient parking. Mr. Bayne replied that CicLAvia and the events are funded by private foundations, corporate sponsorships, Metro, and Los Angeles City budget. Each city has different funding and CicLAvia explores different funding strategies for various events. CicLAvia does carry event insurance. Parking has not been inundated, as use of public or alternate transportation to the events is promoted. Volunteers go door to door to ensure that businesses and residents are properly notified. During the last event only 2 cars were towed along the 7 mile route.

J.K. Drummond commented that bus riders are not properly notified when there are disruptive events taking place and signage can be very confusing.

Bill Meyer invited everyone to stop by the Los Angeles County Bike Coalition booth at the December 7th CicLAvia and encouraged everyone to participate.

8. APPROVED Supporting the Installation of Ticket Vending Machines at Harbor Gateway Transit Center, Council Members

Council directed staff to draft a letter in support of installation of Ticket Vending Machines at Harbor Gateway Transit Center for Council review. Council will approve the letter for submission to the Metro Board for inclusion on the agenda item for purchase of additional machines.

J.K. Drummond suggested installing the ticket vending machines in the middle of the platform facing north to avoid the glare of the sun on the display as opposed to the positioning of the machines at the rail stations.

9. APPROVED Public Hearing to be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 beginning at 6p.m. at Inglewood City Hall or a suitable alternative location should it not be available, Council Members

J.K. Drummond commented that he does not think the hearing should be held in Inglewood but rather somewhere in the eastern area of the South Bay region closer to Line 202 where the service changes are proposed.

Wayne Wright suggested holding the hearing at one of the City of Los Angeles buildings such as the library located near Florence and Figueroa that are nearer to major bus routes.

10. APPROVED Holding a December 2014 Meeting, Council Members

Wayne Wright commented that meetings held in June and December are crucial because they provide an opportunity for service changes to be announced to the public.

J.K. Drummond commented that Council meetings are important to the public. He supported holding a December meeting.

11. RECEIVED Director's Report on South Bay Service Performance, Jon Hillmer, Director

- Bus On-Time Performance: 70.8%; System Goal: 80%; System Average: 73.1%
- Complaints per 100,000 passengers: 4.87, System Goal 3.27, System Average: 4.59
- Miles between mechanical road call: 5,527, System Goal: 4,000, System Average: 4,149
- Clean Bus: 8.39, System Goal: 9.0, System Average: 8.64
- Accidents per 100,000 Miles: 4.46, System Goal: 3.10, System Average 3.62
- Monthly Average Daily Ridership: 349,765; Systemwide: 1,126,000
- Silver Line Ridership Trends: Weekday 14,429; Saturday: 6,093; Sunday: 4,541
- Line 450X Ridership Trends: Weekday: 1,821; Saturday: 521; Sunday: 360

The Metro Purple Line Ground Breaking Event was held recently. Construction of the line to Westwood will be completed in 2035. The new Rapid Express Line 788 (Valley-Westwood Express) service will begin on Monday, December 15, 2014.

A closure of Green Line stations is tentatively scheduled from January 9th-12th for maintenance work.

Councilmember Szerlip commented that Park and Ride rules will need to change in the future to accommodate overnight parking of people riding transit to go to LAX. He asked if the new fare structure has had an effect on the average weekly ridership numbers. Mr. Hillmer replied that ridership increased in August and September despite the fare structure changes, and that it is still too early to tell what the effects of the new fare structure and transfer policy are on ridership.

Councilmember Deming requested that reports be made on the details of upcoming Green Line closures and the Friday to Sunday closures of Blue Line stations south of Willow Station at the next meeting.

Councilmember Gabig asked that Gardena Transit be included in the next Transit Operator Working Group meeting.

Wayne Wright commented that Divisions 2, 9 and 10 received new buses. The contractor that operates Line 266 has also received new buses.

12. Council Member Comments and Line Rides

Councilmember Love accompanied his daughter on a trip to Ranch Los Amigos using Access Services on 11/12/14. He was very impressed with the service; the driver was on time and courteous. It was a shared ride.

Date: 11/13/14; Line: 205; Bus #11054; Boarding Location: Harbor Gateway; Alighting Location: Vermont & Sepulveda; Time On: 10:02pm; Time Off: 11:22am; Bus Cleanliness: Good; The bus was full, very clean no trash bags, all of the stops were announced, and the temperature was comfortable. The only schedule present was for Line 130. On the return trip he boarded Line 550, Bus 8609, and Operator 28794, trash bags were present. A disgruntled man ran in front of the bus at Vermont. The operator let the man on the bus and the passenger continued to be belligerent but the driver remained cool. He recommended that the driver receive a commendation.

Councilmember Szerlip: Date: 10/20/14; Time on: 7:52am; Green Line; Car #213B; The posters on the doors were scraped off and should be addressed. He heard the squeaking noise near the 405 Freeway that has been reported in the past. On 11/2/14 he rode Line 232 at 11:33am; Bus 11032. Schedules for Line 232 and trash bags were available. The auto annunciator worked and the bus was 60% full. On the return trip he boarded Bus #11026 that was 60% full. There were trash bags, brochures regarding TAP transfers, and timetables for Lines 125 and 225 but not Line 232. He asked that a report on the upcoming closures and improvements scheduled for the Green Line Stations be placed on a future agenda.

Councilmember Jeng: On 11/8/14 rode Line 232 and transferred to Line 130 to the South Bay Galleria. She walked 10 minutes to PCH to the bus stop. She used the Next Bus Text to see when the next bus would arrive. According to the schedule on the text the bus was late about 3 minutes. The wait for the return trip was longer because they caught Line 130 going west and Line 232 going north.

Councilmember Deming has been taking the Silver Line to Downtown LA lately and is happy to see an increase in passenger boardings. She attended the WTS Annual Scholarship Dinner and took the Silver Line and was shocked at how packed it was with people going to the USC Football Game. The bus was clean, the audio worked, there were schedules available. On the return trip at 9:30pm at 5th and Flower, heading southbound, the bus was full. A cyclist whose bike was broken was waiting at the bus stop. When the bus arrived it already had two bikes in the rack. The next bus was not due to arrive for another 20 minutes. She asked how the new fare structure and two-hour transfer policy works on the Silver Line and whether or not the rider is expected to pay the 75 cent upcharge.

Councilmember Gabig rode Line 79 on Huntington Dr. It was extremely crowded, there were no schedules and the operator was cordial. The bus was 12 minutes late by the time it arrived. He met with Tim Lindholm regarding the Patsaouras Transit Plaza Project. He asked that a report on the project be provided at a future meeting and noted that it will directly impact the Silver Line.

Chair Franklin thanked and commended the Council for their commitment, passion and making the South Bay Council's presence felt at the quarterly Meet and Confer meetings. He thanked TAP staff for being responsive and comprehensive in answering the Council's questions. On 11/13/14 he attended a meeting in the Downtown area and experienced the gridlock traffic because of the USC Football game.

Date: 10/13/14; Line 212; Bus 5714; Run 9; Operator 16817; Boarding Location: La Brea and Plymouth heading south; Time on: 8:30am; The bus was clean, on time, the head sign was correct, brochures were in the rack, bus was full and the driver was courteous. There were no trash bags. Alighting location: La Brea & Queen. The operator allowed a senior who didn't have the proper fare to board the bus. Chair Franklin expressed concern with the bus driver who visited with a rider standing beside him at the yellow line the entire time. He asked that the operator be reminded that he should remain focused at all times because it is a matter of public safety.

Bill Meyer asked about the state law that now allows 3-bike racks on buses. Mr. Hillmer confirmed that recent state legislation has been passed to allow 40-foot buses to have 3-bike racks installed. However, 45-foot buses are still not permitted to have racks that accommodate 3 bikes.

ADJOURNED at 12:17 p.m.