



Metro


Metropolitan Transportation Authority


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February 13, 2004

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ROGER SNOBLE 
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: JAMES L. DE LA LOZA 
EXECUTIVE OFFICER, COUNTYWIDE PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: FREIGHT & PASSENGER MOVEMENT POLICY

ISSUE/BACKGROUND

At its June 2003 meeting, the MTA Board directed the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a proposal to evaluate the financial, economic and environmental impacts of expansion of the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach on the Los Angeles County region; to determine various corridors for goods movement; and to apply a "systems approach" to solving the goods movement problem.

At its September 2003 meeting, the Board directed the Chief Executive Officer to provide leadership in the area of countywide freight movement planning; consult with key public and private stakeholders; and coordinate with transportation agency partners to develop a comprehensive and cohesive freight and passenger movement policy and plan for Los Angeles County.

At the January 2004 Planning and Programming Committee meeting, MTA staff presented a study work scope to address these Board motions. Planning Committee members expressed concerns regarding the cost and length of time required to conduct the recommended study. Planning Committee members suggested using MTA staff to conduct the work effort.

With respect to conducting the originally recommended long-term goods movement study, MTA staff will include proposals for conducting this work using MTA staff, as requested by the Planning and Programming Committee, as part of the MTA's FY05 Budget. With respect to the short-term, MTA staff is currently active in pursuing goods movement solutions. Current MTA efforts include the following:

- MTA convened the 2nd Annual Mobility 21 Transportation Summit in November with key stakeholders that resulted in the adoption of resolutions and initiatives that will provide support for goods movement system improvements.
- Staff is upgrading the MTA transportation model and analyzing domestic truck/freight trip patterns to gather better information about freight movement that will assist MTA in short and long-range planning efforts.
- Staff continues to participate in existing freight and goods movement working groups to identify freight-related transportation improvements that enhance safety and improve mobility, with minimal impact to the community. Such groups include but are not limited to:
 - Mobility 21 Freight Subcommittee
 - SCAG's Goods Movement Advisory Committee
 - Southern California Goods Movement Strategy Study
 - Los Angeles City Councilwoman Janice Hahn's Regional Transportation Efficiency Team
 - Los Angeles City Mayor Hahn's Transportation Taskforce
 - Coalition for Americas Gateways & Trade Corridors
- Staff has participated in the development and support of legislation that addresses goods movement issues such as the Senate Concurrent Resolution 96 for the Global Gateways Development Program as well as national initiatives sponsored by the Coalition for America Gateway and Trade Corridor and others that seek funding for goods/freight movement projects.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue its active involvement in pursuing goods movement solutions and through these efforts will identify the most feasible short-term solutions for implementation.

Staffing and funding needs for the development of the longer-term goods/freight movement strategies and solutions will be included as part of the FY05 budget process.