



Minutes

LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Wednesday May 27, 1992

The Regular Commission Meeting was called to order by Chairman Antonovich at 2:05 p.m., in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room at the Hall of Administration.

Members present were:

Supervisor Mike Antonovich
Mayor Tom Bradley
Supervisor Ed Edelman
Councilman Richard Alatorre
Councilwoman Jacki Bacharach
Councilmember Judy Hathaway-Francis
Councilman Ray Grabinski
James Tolbert
Gerry Hertzberg, Alternate for Supervisor Molina
Mas Fukai, Alternate for Supervisor Hahn
Marvin Holen, Alternate for Supervisor Edelman
Don Knabe, Alternate for Supervisor Dana
Nick Patsouras, Alternate for Supervisor Antonovich
Ray Remy, Alternate for Mayor Bradley

Staff members present:

Neil Peterson, Executive Director
David Kelsey, Assistant County Counsel



CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

- a. Chairman Antonovich commended the Bus Operators and L.A. County Sheriff's Department for the outstanding job performed during the civil unrest period from April 30 to May 4, 1992.
- b. Neil Peterson advised the Commissioners that the Safety Committee would consist of Gerry Hertzberg, Jacki Bacharach, Ray Grabinski and two members of the Rail Construction Corporation Board of Directors, John Murray and Bob Kruse.
- c. Chairman Antonovich explained that on the Audit Committee, he had received names and would make the appointments at the meeting.
- d. AB 152 Legislation on the merger between LACTC and SCRDT:

Neil Peterson gave a summary outline and also stated that Assemblyman Richard Katz is introducing a new follow-up or clean-up bill AB 3547 to AB 152.

- e. APTA Rapid Transit Conference:

Sharon Neely of staff reported on the APTA expenditures, and answered questions of Mayor Bradley and Commissioners.

Much discussion followed.

Chairman Antonovich stated that Mr. O'Connell, of California Bus Association said they would donate transportation services to LACTC for the APTA conference. He said that we could follow-up on their suggestion of providing free transit service and eliminate public spending.

Mr. Grabinski made a motion to develop a policy so that staff knows what the guidelines are and he recommended it go to the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded.

Much discussion followed.

Mayor Bradley's motion was introduced as follows:

The Executive Director of the LACTC present a detailed financial accounting of all conference expenses including: 1) LACTC's total contributions; and 2) a complete listing of private sector contributions by company and

individual names;

That the Audit Committee of the LACTC review the signature authority policy of the Executive Director and make necessary amendments to prevent future abuse of this type.

That Executive Director of the LACTC bring all decisions to support national transportation conferences or similar costly and discretionary events to the Commissioners, who are responsible for the management of the agency.

Chairman Antonovich moved that Mr. Grabinski's and Mayor Bradley's motions become one.

More discussion followed before the motion was carried.

Chairman Antonovich motioned to approve, which was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Meeting minutes for March 4, 1992 and March 16, 1992 were approved.

Ms. Bacharach stated that the meeting minutes for March 25, 1992 and April 22, 1992 were not clear as to which motions were approved.

Ms. Hathaway-Francis also stated that on the April 22, 1992 meeting minutes on Item 18, the resolution is completely the opposite of the way it's expressed in the minutes.

Mr. Remy would like the March 25, 1992 meeting minutes changed on Item 20.

Ms. Bacharach made the motion to change the minutes. Motion was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried as amended.

40. REBUILD L.A. - LACTC'S ROLE

Approved staff recommendation to prepare these concepts as representative areas for the Commissioners to review with the goals of promoting discussion and providing us with policy direction.

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Public Comment received from: Mr. Robert La Vels, Representative of LA Taxi

Chairman Antonovich stated that various suggestions had been made on how to improve transit services in Los Angeles and gave a brief summary and introduced a motion.

- a. direct staff to work with the County and affected cities and the RTD to develop a bus redesign study for South Central Los Angeles and report back to this Commission at the June meeting with a plan of study and a budget; and,
- b. send a letter to the FTA Administrator requesting immediate assistance under the Entrepreneurial Services Program to explore innovative community-based transportation, including jitney-type service.

Ms. Bacharach second the motion. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Mayor Bradley also addressed the Commissioners regarding The Federal Transit Administration on the competition for grants to support a Suspended Light Rail System Technology Pilot Program. Mayor Bradley went into discussion on this matter and introduced a motion.

Mayor Bradley moved that:

The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission direct staff:

- a. to initiate preparation of a technical proposal/grant application for possible submission to the FTA on July 6, 1992 as required by the announcement and report back to the Commission at its June 24, 1992 meeting for review and possible approval.
- b. prepare a detailed report outlining the advantages and disadvantages of participating in the SLRT program. This report must include a full assessment of local monetary obligation and extent of private sector participation.

Motion was seconded by Chairman Antonovich. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Ms. Bacharach asked that this be carried over to the next meeting (Suspended Light Rail System). Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

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Ms. Bacharach moved approval of the Committee Recommendations on Item 40. Motion was seconded by Mayor Bradley. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

CLOSED SESSION: - at 2:43 p.m. the Commissioners recessed into closed session to discuss the following:

- a. Real Estate Matters: (Govt. Code Sec. 54956.8/9)
 - Parcel No. B2-190 (Administrative Settlement)
 - Parcel Nos. B2-211 and AS-526
- b. Santa Fe Right-of-Way - Status

Commissioners returned to the podium at 3:20 p.m.

It was announced that the Commissioners took the following motion in closed session:

Approved on Administrative Settlement of \$1,325,000 for Parcel B2-190.

Approved just compensation of \$520,000 for Parcel B2-211.

Approved just compensation not to exceed \$93,500 for Parcel AS526

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. David Kelsey asked if there were any parties that wished to testify on the public hearings for condemnation.

The following items were held over for the next commission meeting at the request of the owners, who have asked for additional time to prepare their testimony:

Mr. Kelsey asked Chairman Antonovich for a motion to open the public hearing in lieu of the legal description on the following parcels:

- a. R-81-B2-215: Harlan C. Erikson, David B. & Merleen T. Devine. Property located at 1533 No. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles.
- b. R-81-B2-216: Michael Devine. Property located at 1547-1555 No. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles.

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- c. R-81-B2-217: Harlan Erikson. Property located at 1601 No. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles.
- d. R-81-B2-218: David Devine, Michael R. Devine, Merleen T. Devine. Property located at 1605-1635 No. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles.

Mr. Grabinski moved approval, it was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was passed.

After much discussion on Item e, Mr. Kelsey asked that it be continued to the next meeting. Motion was moved, and seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

- e. R23-R21-AS510: Leonard Jaffe. Property located at the southeast corner of Imperial Highway and Douglas Street, El Segundo.

In closed session the Commission authorized just compensation as follows:

<u>PARCEL NO.</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>JUST COMPENSATION</u>	
AS526	Southern Pacific Transportation Co.	\$19,700	Fee, Subsurface Easement, Air Rights /Mo. not to exceed 30 months or
		\$ 2,460	
		(\$73,800)	
B2-211	Charlotte Davis	\$520,000	
B2-190	Esther Dana	\$1,325,000	

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 1-37)

Items #2, #17, #18, #32, and 40 A and B were held for further discussion.

Mr. Edelman moved for approval of the remaining Items 1-37 which Mr. Antonovich seconded. Without objection, motion was carried.

Chairman Antonovich abstained on Items #33 and #38 and voted no against Items #24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, and 37.

Mayor Bradley abstained on Item #38.

2. **Proposition A 40% Discretionary Fund "Base" Restructuring Guidelines**

Approved staff recommendation of draft Proposition A 40% Discretionary Fund "Base" Restructuring guidelines.

3. **Congestion Management Program Update: Congestion Study and Phase I TDM Ordinance**

Approved staff recommendation of the work scope and schedule of the Countywide Congestion Study and concur in the continued development of the Phase I TDM Ordinance in consultation with local jurisdictions and private sector interests.

4. **Exposition Right-of-Way Preliminary Planning Study and Environmental Impact Report**

Approved staff recommendation with the following modifications:

1. Include a guided busway alternative in the EIR, and replace the wording of "trolley bus" with the term "zero-emission" bus to allow evaluation of trolley bus and other propulsion technologies.
2. Do not award the consultant contract for the EIR until patronage data is available. (Staff expects to return to the Commission with patronage forecasts and a consultant recommendation in August.)

5. **Draft Environmental Impact Report for Metro Blue Line - Exposition Park Branch Extension**

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. Approved the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Exposition Park Branch Extension to the Metro Blue Line.
- b. Approved that staff conduct a Public Hearing on the DEIR on June 24, 1992, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at Los Angeles Trade and Technical College.

6. **Taylor Yard Agreement:**

Commission approved the Taylor Yard Agreement and authorized the Executive Director to execute and transmit the Agreement to the City of Los Angeles.

8. **Implementation of Transportation Control Measures**

Approved staff recommendation on the report for transmittal to SCAG, also to include a provision in each future Commission agenda item to document the relationship of the action to AQMP requirements. Staff is to closely monitor regulatory efforts concerning transportation issues and the Federal and State Clean Air Acts. Request periodic status reports on LACTC's progress in implementation of Transportation Control Measures.

9. **AB 3043 (O'Connell): Railroads and the Transportation of Hazardous Materials**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support AB 3043 as it could assist in the delivery of commuter rail services which share routes with freight services.

10. **AB 3096 (Katz): California Transportation Research and Innovation Program - Reconsideration**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support AB 3096 as a means to enhance state support for research and development of transportation technologies.

11. **SB 1435 (Koop): ISTEA Implementation**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support SB 1435 with amendments to ensure that Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) formula funds are sub-allocated within the SCAG region by population to the four statutorily created transportation commissions.

12. **Rail Bond Act of 1992**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support the Rail Bond Act of 1992.

13. **AB 3252 (Kelley): Compressed Natural Gas Demonstration**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support AB 3252.

14. **AB 3341 (Katz): Public Contracts, Minority and Women Enterprises**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support AB 3341.

15. **AJR 67 (Polanco): Natural Gas**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support this measure.

16. **SB 1785 (Koop): Disposition of Highway Right-of-Way and Airspace**

Approved staff recommendation that Commission support SB 1785

19. **Revisions to the Citizen's Advisory Committee Bylaws**

Approved staff recommendation of changes to the CAC by-laws.

20. **Authorize the Executive Director to Accept an Easement from the City of Pasadena at the Civic Center Station and Authorization by the Commission to Grant an Easement to the Janss Corporation from within such Easement**

Approved staff recommendation that Executive Director accept a grant of easement from the City of Pasadena and the subsequent grant of an easement in portion thereof to the Janss Corporation for its construction of structural supports for airspace mixed-used development.

21. **Contract FA 274 Award - Master Plan Assessment Consultant, Hollywood/Western**

Approved staff recommendation to award FA-274, Master Plan Assessment Study, for the Hollywood/Western Station to Meyer & Allen Associates for a sum not to exceed \$95,000.

22. **Contract FA-287 Award - Master Plan Assessment Consultant, Vermont/Santa Monica**

Approved staff recommendation to award FA-287, Master Plan Assessment Study, for the Vermont/Santa Monica Station to Rossetti Associates Architects for a sum not to exceed \$85,000.

23. **Metro Green Line: Contract C0110 - Segmental Bridges, C.O. #14**

Approved the following recommendations, that the Executive Director:

- a. Approve Change Order No. 014 in the amount of \$390,044.00.
- b. Approve an increase to the AFE of \$1,146,300.00 for a revised AFE total of \$9,200,000.00, to cover the increase resulting from this Change Order, pending change orders, potential claims and to restore the contract contingency fund.

24. **Metro Green Line: Contract C0101 - Foundations and Underground Utilities, Contractor: Brinderson Corporation - Approval of C.O. #55 and Recommendation for Contract Acceptance**

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. Authorized the Executive Director to approve Change Notice No. 75/Change Order No. 55 in the amount of \$842,818.89. This Change Order will settle all outstanding changes, claims and disputes for the C0101 Contract, and all other outstanding amounts.
- b. The acceptance of the subject contract as of April 17, 1992 and authorized the recording of the Notice of Completion.
- c. The Release of the contract balance of \$1,188,059.46 upon contract acceptance.
- d. The release of the contract retention funds in the amount of \$827,113.70 due thirty days following the filing of the Notice of Completion.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

25. **Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Contract A147/A157 - Temporary Ventilation For Metro Red Line Systems, Civic Center Station, C.O. #116**

Approved Change Order A147-CO-116, Temporary Ventilation for Civic Center Station, in the amount of \$236,859.00, which increases the total contract value to \$41,322,597.00 and the Authority For Expenditure (AFE) by \$236,859.00. This Change Order amount represents the total cost associated with the installation and subsequent maintenance of the temporary ventilation for the Civic Center Station. This Change Order is within the contract forecast and necessary funding is available within the \$1,450,000,000.00 Segment 1 budget.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

26. **Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Contract A147/A157 - Temporary Ventilation for Metro Red Line Systems, Pershing Square Station, C.O. #117**

Approved Change Order A157-CO-117, Temporary Ventilation for Pershing Square Station, in the amount of \$285,753.00, which increases the total contract value to \$42,371,491.00 and the Authority for Expenditure (AFE) by \$285,753.00. This

Change Order amount represents the total cost associated with the installation and subsequent maintenance of the temporary ventilation for the Pershing Square Station. This Change Order is within the contract forecast and necessary funding is available within the \$1,450,000,000.00, Segment 1 budget.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

27. **Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Contract A640 - Communications, Relocation of MRL Control Center to Central Control Facility, C.O. #25.01**

Approved Change Order A640-CO-25.01, Relocation of Metro Red Line Control Center to the Central Control Facility, in the amount of \$2,540,742.00, a reduction of \$359,260.00 from the previously approved amount of \$2,900,000. This increases the total contract value to \$55,133,966.00. This Change Order is within the contract forecast and within the \$1,450,000,000. Red Line Segment 1 budget.

28. **Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Contract A640 - Communications, SCADA Subsystem Specifications Modifications to TP-9, C.O. #67.00**

Approved Change Order A640-CO-67 in the amount of \$459,175.00, which increases the total contract value to \$53,052,399.00. This Change Order is within the contract forecast and necessary funding is available within the \$1,450,000,000.00 Segment 1 budget.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

29. **Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Contract A175 - Wilshire/Alvarado Station, Stage I Contract Close-out**

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. The acceptance of the subject Contract completion as of March 22, 1991.
- b. Retain \$38,000.00 until pending third-party insurance issues are resolved.
- c. Retain \$6,050.00 for DBE deficiency assessment, per Southern California Rapid Transit District (SCRTD) Contract Compliance Department.
- d. Authorized the filing of the Notice of Completion.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

30. Advisory Board Report - Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Communications, Contract A640 - Conformed SCADA Subsystem Design and Installation to Final Upgrading Requirements - C.O. #247

This was an an advisory Item . The Commission was advised that the subject change notice reflects a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) cost estimate of \$1,000,000.00.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

31. Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Contract A116 - Contract Closeout

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. The acceptance of the subject Contract completed as of October 25, 1991.
- b. The cancellation of \$24,399.51 in Authorization for Expenditure (AFE).
- c. Authorized the filing of the Notice of Completion.

33. Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Construction/Procurement Contract AFE's

Approved staff recommendation to authorize new expenditure levels for active construction/procurement contracts.

34. Metro Blue Line: Contract R01-T01-C355R - Long Beach Landscaping - Request for Increase in AFE

Approved staff recommendation to authorize an increase of \$93,461 to adjust the current AFE amount of \$1,400,000 to a revised total AFE of \$1,493,461.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

35. Metro Rail Transit: Contract #MQ01, Amendment #15 - Kellogg Corporation, Project Management Assistance

Approved staff recommendation that the Commission authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment Number 15 with Kellogg Corporation in the amount of \$628,433 and extend the contract completion date to June 30, 1994.

The \$628,433 budget is as follows:

Red Line Segment 1	\$135,388
Red Line Segment 2	

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(Mined Stations Phase I)	\$ 62,000
Red Line Segment 2	
(Mined Stations Phase II)	\$336,000
Blue Line	(\$28,449)
Safety Review and	
Audit (Systemwide)	<u>\$123,494</u>
Total	\$628,433

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

36. Metro Green Line: Contract C0501 - System Facilities Sites

Approved staff recommendation that Executive Director award Contract No. C0501 to S.J. Amoroso Construction Co., the second low bidder and the only responsible, responsive bidder. This Contract award will be for a total amount of \$5,006.841. The commitment for this Contract is as follows:

Total Contract Award	\$5,006.841.00
10% Contract Reserve Fund (Excluded from Award)	<u>500,684.00</u>
Total Commitment Request	\$5,507.525.00

37. Metro Rail Projects: Contract MR025 - Master Errors & Omission Insurance Services

Approved the following recommendations:

- The selection of the MTG, as the broker to design, market, and secure the professional errors and omissions liability insurance.
- Risk Manager to issue a "broker of record letter" to MTG joint venture. The Risk Manager and the broker will meet directly with insurance underwriters in London to procure the errors and omissions insurance on behalf of the Commission.
- Risk Manager to negotiate the terms and conditions for the brokerage contract with the MTG joint venture, subject to Board approval.

Chairman Antonovich voted no on this motion.

38. Metro Outdoor Public Information Program

Approved the following recommendations:

That Executive Director execute a contract with Gannett Outdoor Company, as well as a contract with Patrick Media Group, and obligate the funds set out below to carry out the RCC's advertisement needs.

Gannett Outdoor Company	\$129,750
Patrick Media Group	<u>\$129,000</u>
Total Expenditure:	<u>\$258,750</u>

The above expenditure is within the Public Affairs approved 1991-92 budget.

Mayor Bradley abstained on this item.

Finance and Programming Committee:

Mr. Patsouras stated that subsequent to posting of the agenda they were apprised with the Agenda Addendum, saying that these items were an emergency due to changing Financial Market rates and other potential financial impacts. Therefore, the Commission allowed this agenda to be placed on the consent calendar with a two-thirds vote:

1. Proposed Refunding Bond Issue with SWAP Agreement (FPC) Agenda Item IV.A)

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. Authorized a full-term swap transaction wherein the Commission issues short-term, variable-rate demand notes (VRDN's) and swaps their interest payment stream for long-term fixed rate bond payments.
- b. Approved Smith Barney, Harris Upham & Co., Inc. as Swap Agent, Remarketing Agent and Co-Senior Manager.
- c. Approved AIG Financial Products as the counterparty to the swap transaction and to provide a supporting letter of credit (LOC).
- d. Authorized the Commission's Commercial Paper Dealers to market the short-term notes as they currently market our commercial paper:

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Goldman Sachs (Co-Senior Manager) - Ed Burdett

Lehman Brothers (Co-Senior Manager) - Catherine Pfeifenberger

Grigsby, Brandford (DBE) - Calvin Grigsby

Artemis Capital (WBE) - Aimee Brown

- e. Approved a team of DBE/WBE underwriters for the sale of serial bonds not included in the swap transaction. The team would include all the DBE/WBE firms that participated in the November 1991 refunding:

Grigsby Brandford - Calvin Grigsby (Co-Senior Mgr.)

Artemis Capital - Aimee Brown (Co-Senior Mgr.)

M.R. Beal & Co. - Lester Graves

De La Rosa & Co. - Ed De La Rosa

Smith, Mitchell & Asso. - Midge Van Horn

Bancroft, Garcia & Lavell, Inc. - Lauro Garcia

W. R. Lazard, Laidlaw & Mead - Tom Mead

I. C. Rideau, Securities, Inc.

- f. Approved O'Melveny and Myers as Bond Counsel and Robinson, Pearman as Co-Bond Counsel (combined fee \$225,000 plus expenses capped at \$25,000)
- g. Approved that Bond Counsel prepared documentation; and staff presented the following documents for approval:
- Resolution of the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission authorizing the issuance and sale of its Sales Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds Series 1992-A and approving other related matters
 - Tenth Supplemental Trust Agreement (LACTC and Trustee, First Interstate Bank)
 - Escrow Agreement (LACTC and First Interstate Bank as trustee and

escrow agent)

- Interest Rate Swap Agreement (LACTC and AIG-FP)
- Liquidity Guaranty Agreement (LACTC and AIG-FP)
- Standby Bond Purchase Agreement (LACTC and Liquidity Bank)
- Remarketing Agreement (LACTC and Smith Barney)
- Bond Purchase Agreement (LACTC and Underwriters)
- Official Statement
- Various Closing Documents

2. **Taxable Commercial Paper (FPC Agenda Item IV B)**

Approved staff recommendation of the \$25,000 contract with Commercial Paper Bond Counsel, Kutak, Rock and Campbell, to amend our documentation to allow taxable as well as tax-exempt commercial paper issues under our \$350,000,000 authorization

3. **Process for Selecting Financing Team for Proposition C Sales Tax Revenue Bond Issues (FPC Agenda Item IV.C)**

Approved staff recommendations that the Commission authorize staff to issue requests for proposal (RFP's) for underwriters, bond counsels and trustees. Authorize staff to form screening committees to review proposals and establish candidate pools for bond counsels, senior managing underwriters and co-managing underwriters. Authorize staff to select bond teams for various Prop C bond issues from the selected pools over a two year period. The committee also approved that the Commission appoint a representative to serve in the bond team selection process.

4. **LACTC Actions to Resolve SCRTD FY 1993 Budget Shortfall (FPC Agenda Item VI D.1)**

a. **SCRTD/CTFC Certificates of Participation Bus Financing (FPC Agenda Item VI D.1)**

Approved staff recommendation to authorize the issuance of Certificates of participation not to exceed \$120 million for the purchase of 333 SCRTD

replacement buses by approving the following bond documents.

- Resolution approving, authorizing and directing execution of certain financing documents, approving a preliminary official statement, memorandum of understanding and purchase contract, and authorizing and directing certain actions with respect thereto.

The full text of the other documents will be available at the Committee meeting or before upon request:

- Lease Agreement (between LACTC and CTFC)
- Trust Agreement (between LACTC, CTFC and trustee, "State Street Bank")
- Memorandum of Understanding (between LACTC and SCRTD)
- Bond Purchase Agreement (between LACTC, CTFC and the underwriter, "First Boston Corporation")
- Official Statement
- Various closing documents

Authorized the Executive Director or his designee to execute the referenced documents including the Bond Purchase Agreement with a maximum term of twelve (12) years and with a true interest cost (TIC) not to exceed 7.00%.

Confirm that these Certificates of Participation will be secured by the Commission's covenant to annually appropriate principal and interest payments from the regional FTA Section 9 capital allocation (80%) and from the SCRTD allocations of STA, TDA and discretionary portion of Proposition A funds (20%). This covenant does not include Proposition C funds not the rail set-aside and local return portions of Proposition A funds.

- b. Reprogram Prior Year SCRTD Capital Match for Operating Purposes (FPC Agenda Item IV D.2)

Approved staff recommendation that the LACTC approve TIP amendments requested by the SCRTD, thus allowing the prior local capital match obligation to be used for FY 1992 operating subsidies.

c. SCRTD Eligibility for State Transit Assistance Funds (FPC Agenda Item IV D.3)

Approved staff recommendation to authorize the Executive Director to disburse \$15.3 million in State Transit Assistance funds to the SCRTD for operating purposes for FY 1990, 1991, and 1992, with the following provisions:

- That prior to release disbursement of STA operating funds for FY 1993 and beyond, the Executive Director shall report back to the LACTC and present a plan to implement a contracting process as described below; and
- That the SCRTD hold LACTC harmless in the event that a court determines that the STA funds were improperly allocated.

5. Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute State Funding Agreements for Railroad Right-of-Way Acquisitions Related to Commuter/Urban Rail Projects and Committing to Actions Related to Hazardous Wastes and Investment Policy on State-Funded Acquisitions

Approved staff recommendation that Commission adopt the attached updated resolution which provides for the following to secure state financial assistance needed on railroad right-of-way acquisitions for commuter/urban rail projects:

- a. Authorized the Executive Director or his designee to execute Fund Transfer Agreements, assurances, certifications, and all other necessary documents and contracts with the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).
- b. Authorized the Executive Director or his designee to furnish such additional information to the CTC and/or Caltrans as may be required.
- c. Certifications from the Commission required by the CTC regarding liability and costs for hazardous wastes and investment policy for acquisitions of railroad rights-of-way.

6. 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

Approved staff recommendations as follows:

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- a. Approved the fast track use of the FY 1991-1992 110% FAU/FAS Guarantee Funds from the STP Flexible Formula Funds for Combined Road Plan (Federal-Aid Urban) overprogramming and direct staff to develop fast track programs for the remaining FY 1991-1992 CMAQ and STP Formula Funds;
- b. Direct staff to develop selection criteria for the STP and CMAQ Flexible Formula Funds which uses the 1991 ISTEA scoring, screening, and eligibility factors. Upon approval of the criteria by the LACTC, issue a call for projects for the FY 1992-1993 and FY 1993-1994 STP and CMAQ funds; and
- c. Use the existing LACTC formula for distributing Federal-Aid Urban (FAU) funds for the new FAU guarantee in the proposed state legislation for implementing the 1991 ISTEA federal flexible funds (SB 1435, Kopp). 110% of the FY 1990-1991 level of Federal Aid Urban (FAU) and Federal-Aid Secondary (FAS) funds would be guaranteed to the Los Angeles county area from the new ISTEA Surface Transportation Program funds. Use of the existing LACTC formulas would direct FAS annually to the County of Los Angeles for rural roads. The remaining funds (FAU) would be split 80% to the cities and the County based on population and 20% for regional projects selected at LACTC's discretion (approved by the LACTC Technical Advisory Committee at its May 6, 1992 meeting).

Ms. Bacharach moved approval of the above emergency FPC items. Motion was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Ms. Bacharach asked for a Finance Item - to have staff work with RTD to find out what the Financing Plan is for the 50 cent fare so they can figure out RTD's FY 1992-1993 budget shortfall.

The following items were held over to the June 24 LACTC meeting:

1. Amendment of Award of Art for Rail Transit Contracts
2. Amendment: Consulting Services for Financial and Performance audits Contract FA-211
3. Metro Freeway Service Patrol Contract Award
4. Financial Management Information System

5. Preliminary FY 1992-1993 Operating Budget
6. Sale of a Partial Interest on Parcel CX-202 to the City of El Monte

FURTHER DISCUSSION OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. **Proposition C 40% Discretionary Grant Program: Policy and Administrative Guidelines.**

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. Prop C Discretionary Grant Program policy and administrative guidelines for the remaining unadopted three components:
 - * Rail system capacity expansion
 - * Mandated Programs
 - * Service quality and customer convenience
- b. Approved the establishment of a special Proposition C Discretionary Program Review Ad Hoc committee to evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency and consistency of the policy and administrative guidelines over the first funding cycle and within the framework of the commission's goals and objectives. This committee will function through the Bus Operations Subcommittee. The purpose of this committee will be to forward recommendations to the LACTC on modifications to program funding policies as well as improving the grant application process.

Mr. Holen and Mr. Alatorre requested that the statement at the end of the first paragraph of the Policy and Administrative Guidelines should in effect become a principle onto itself. He then quoted the following from the first paragraph:

"Since this portion of Proposition C is totally discretionary, the Commission can distribute these funds as it deems appropriate."

Mr. Holen moved for approval. Ms. Bacharach seconded the motion. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

7. Metro Green Line Easterly Extension Route Refinement Study (RRS) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Project Update.

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. Environmental impacts, operational issues, and cost estimates of the alternative routes and alignments.
- b. Proceed with the EIR to focus on the subway alignment alternative on the Imperial Highway route.

Chairman Antonovich ask questions of Neil Peterson regarding the subway issue.

Ram Kumar of Staff answered questions of the Commission. Mr. Kumar was asked why not do a study on aerial.

Much discussion followed regarding the alternative of aerial alternative.

Mr. Hertzberg addressed the Commission stating why not study both EIR's.

Mr.Hertzberg moved approval. Chairman Antonovich seconded the motion.

Much discussion followed, with Mr. Kumar being questioned on the costs of the EIR's.

Mr. Tolbert called for the question.

Mayor Bradley asked for clarification on the EIR's. Discussion followed.

Ms. Bacharach said that they could go out with two equal proposals.

Ms. Bacharach amended Mr. Hertzberg's motion to read:

That if the City of Norwalk commits to pay the incremental difference with the subway and would like us to call that the preferred alternative, we do that.

Ms. Hathaway-Francis seconded the motion.

Public comment received from:

Goldy Norton, United Transportation Union

Pat Moser, Southern California Transit Advocates

Bryan Allen

Roll call vote on the modification:

Yes: Hertzberg, Holen, Bradley, Bacharach, Tolbert, Antonovich

No: Grabinski, Hathaway-Francis

Abstain: (none)

The motion passed with a six to two (6-2) vote as amended.

17. **Transfer of Metro Red Line Segment 1: Federal Grantee Responsibility from SCRTD and LACTC.**

Approved the following recommendations :

- a. Execute the agreement on behalf of the LACTC and authorize the transfer of federal grantee status from SCRTD to LACTC including all rights, responsibilities, duties and functions associated with oversight and monitoring of the Full Funding Grant Agreement for Metro Red Line Segment 1.
- b. Amend the staffing level in the FY 1991-92 Budget to include not more than 24 positions transferred from SCRTD to LACTC.

Ms. Bacharach addressed Chairman Antonovich on the modification that they received (Item 17). She stated that she would have taken it off the consent calendar. I think there should be a rule that when you get something different it automatically comes off the consent calendar.

Mr. Antonovich made the motion. Motion was seconded.

That Board Policy state that any additions or modifications to a proposal which is on consent will automatically take it off consent.

Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

Ms. Bacharach asked for an explanation as to how this item changed.

Mr. Kelsey explained that it dealt only with the section of benefit assessment.

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Mr. Grabinski made a motion that the interest to be paid is an exception to the rule, setting no precedent and that it be clearly explained.

Ms. Bacharach asked that they add to the recommendation - that the funds that are paid go into the Worker's Compensation Fund - and that the Commission receive verification that the Fund was reimbursed.

Considerable discussion followed.

Chairman Antonovich seconded Ms. Bacharach's motion.

Public Comments received from:

Pat Moser, Southern California Transit Advocates

Pat Chiodo, American Safety & Risk Mgmt. Svcs.

Mr. Tolbert called for the question:

Ms. Bacharach asked that the question be delineated.

Roll call vote to the question:

Yes: Hertzberg, Holen, Bradley, Grabinski, Hathaway-Francis, Tolbert

No: Patsaouras

Abstain: Bacharach

Motion passed.

18. Designation of Approved List of Executive Search and Temporary Agency Firms:

Mr. Hertzberg stated he had requested a report over two months ago regarding the use of Executive Search firms and Temporary Services. To date he has not received same. He asked why staff couldn't do the recruiting in-house, why go outside.

Mr. Peterson of staff answered questions of the Commission.

Much discussion followed.

Mayor Bradley moved approval. Ms. Bacharach seconded the motion.

Mr. Hertzberg asked that the question be split and amended to split the temporary services from the rest.

Ms. Hathaway-Francis asked for a 3-6 month report on the Executive Search.

Much discussion followed.

Mr. Holen moved that any exception to a hiring freeze be brought before the Commission for action and therefore I would like a report.

Mr. Patsaouras so ordered.

Roll call vote: Executive Search - First motion

Yes: Bradley, Grabinski, Bacharach

No: Holen, Hathaway-Francis, Tolbert, Patsaouras

Motion failed.

Roll call vote: Temporary Services - Second motion

Yes: Hertzberg, Holen, Bradley, Grabinski, Bacharach, Hathaway-Francis, Tolbert, Patsaouras

No: (None)

Motion was carried as amended.

Ms. Hathaway-Francis requested in the form of a motion a feedback after three months to what extent the different firms have been used; a number of each firm, number of employees hired.

32. **Advisory Board Report - Metro Red Line, Segment 1: Remedial Grouting of Station Walls:**

RCC Board approved staff's recommendation:

Upon completion of its evaluation of the water leaks discovered at the Segment 1 facilities, staff requested the approval of the RCC Board to allow staff to solicit competitive proposals from two or more contractors from ongoing Segment 1 contracts by issuance of a change notice for a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM)

cost estimate of \$2,500,000.00.

Mayor Bradley commented on the \$2 1/2 million that is being requested to redo the job in the tunnels and he stated that the work should have been done right the first time by the contractors and said he was not going to sit there with his eyes closed to this matter, because he was going to speak out. He said he didn't care who was at fault or who was to blame. He also asked why not go after the contractor and make him pay for this. He also stated that he would vote no on this item.

Mr. McSpedon of RCC staff answered questions of Mayor Bradley.

Much discussion and questioning followed.

Ms. Bacharach moved approval. Mr. Grabinski seconded the motion.

Public Comment received from:

John Walsh, United Riders of American

Bob D'Amato, American Safety & Risk Mgmt. Svcs.

Pat Chiodo, American Safety & Risk Mgmt. Svcs.

Mr. Hertzberg moved that they take the money from the retention fund (contractors).

Motion was moved for approval and seconded.

Discussion followed.

Roll call vote on Mr. Hertzberg motion to pay from the reserve:

Yes: Hertzberg, Holen, Bacharach, Hathaway-Francis

No: Bradley, Grabinski, Tolbert, Patsaouras

Motion failed.

39. L.A. Car Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations

Approved the following recommendations:

- a. Commission approved the division of the 100 Standard Light Rail Vehicles

order into two independent solicitations consisting of a Start Up Light Rail Vehicle order for 12 cars by Invitation for Bid (IFB) and LA Standard Light Rail Vehicle order for 90 cars (88 LA cars plus 2 prototypes) by Request for Proposal (RFP).

- b. Authorized staff to proceed with the advertisement and solicitation of Contract No. P2010.

Ms. Bacharach moved that we purchase 15 cars. Motion was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried. Procurement process for the 15 cars are low bid and do not include domestic or local content.

40. **Rebuild L.A.:**

Mr. Holen recommended that before the Committee Recommendations are implemented that they go back to PMIC for review on each of the items involved.

Discussion followed between Ms. Bacharach and Mr. Grabinski.

Ms. Hathaway-Francis stated that this come back to the Commission in the form of a report, and she so moved that they be advised on the activities that have taken place during the first month so that they can appropriately respond and work with the PMIC on this.

Motion was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

40a. **Approve PMIC Recommendations:** (ETB Prototypes)

Mr. Grabinski made a motion on the O Emissions and directed staff to seek State and Federal Funding for the project:

I, therefore, move that the LACTC include an O Emission project in the "Rebuild LA" project lists and direct staff to seek State and Federal funding for this project, including the filing of a request for a "Letter of No Prejudice" and grant application with the FTA and additional administrative actions as required.

Ms. Bacharach stated that at the last meeting they made a recommendation that a study would be coming back in 90 days on the O Emission buses and we would not authorize any preliminary engineering to go forward. She asked if this had anything to do with that previous motion, which was that they not start until the report was in.

Mr. Peterson answered questions of Commissioners.

Much discussion followed. Ms. Bacharach asked if there were any designated lines.

Mr. Patsaouras stated East Los Angeles, Long Beach and South Central LA.

Roll Call vote to the question:

Yes: Holen, Bradley, Grabinski, Bacharach, Hathaway-Francis, Tolbert,
Patsaouras

No: (None)

Motion passed.

40b. **Rebuild L.A. - Community-Based Transportation Options**

Approved recommendation to allocate up to \$100,000 per month in Proposition A funds for up to 60 days to provide additional transportation services in the community, including SCRTD Line 625 and Operation Food Basket.

41. **Management Practices -Follow-up:**

Mr. Peterson advised that the Legislative Committee had met that morning and these two items were tabled to a subsequent meeting.

Ms. Bacharach moved that the Legislative Committee items be exempt from the rule we just adopted.

Mr. Patsaouras seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

42. **Commission Travel Report:**

Mr. Peterson requested approval for Commissioner Bacharach to attend the next High Speed Rail Advisory Committee Meeting in Sacramento.

Ms. Bacharach so moved. Motion was seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

43. **Metrolink Issues:**

Ms. Bacharach addressed Chairman Patsaouras on the Metrolink Issues and asked

that they be reviewed and let her and the other delegates know what his feelings are. There is also an Implementation Progress Report expressing what stations are ready.

Meeting Request:

Ms. Bacharach asked Mr. Peterson for a L.A. Car Ad Hoc Committee Meeting. Mr. Peterson stated that they would schedule a meeting before the next commission meeting.

Ms. Bacharach's request of Procedural Issues:

Ms. Bacharach addressed the Commission on procedural issues she stated that some kind of motion or ruled be established that when items come up on the agenda, that it be the only time they come up on the agenda. On several occasions Commissioners have been under the impression that the item has been resolved and they have left and then the item keeps coming up throughout the meeting.

Mr. Patsaouras agreed. Mayor Bradley also agreed and Mayor Bradley introduced the following motion:

- that Executive Director schedule all committee meetings to allow adequate time to prepare minutes and recommendations to ensure their inclusion in the monthly Board agenda packages.
- that Executive Director provide regular status reports on all agenda items and motions which by their text required follow-up.

Mr. Patsaouras seconded the motion. Much discussion followed.

Mayor Bradley and Ms. Bacharach went back and forth on this issue, with Ms. Bacharach stating that what the motion stated is not the same thing that is being said by the Commissioners, which is that if the items are not posted by Tuesday it will not be placed on the Agenda. Her interpretation of the motion is that staff should get the information to the Commissioners on a timely basis.

More discussion took place.

Ms. Bacharach asked for a motion that the PMIC meeting next month be exempt from this rule.

Mr. Patsaouras seconded. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

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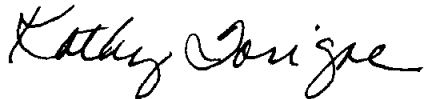
Discussion followed.

Public comment received from:

Pat Moser, Southern California Transit Advocates

Bryan Allen

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm.



Kathy Torigoe
Executive Secretary
to the Commission
KYT:rg

5/27/92

COMMISSION ACTION TO PURCHASE
15 LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES

On June 1, 1992, the Commission advertised an Invitation for Bid ("IFB") for 15 start up light rail vehicles to service the Green Line and to duplicate existing Blue Line cars for future use on the Blue Line. The Green Line is scheduled to open in November, 1994.

The Commission received a non-conforming bid from Siemens Duewag Corporation and a response from Sumitomo Corporation of America ("Sumitomo") which were rejected.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 130233, staff was instructed to pursue negotiations with car builders based on specifications contained in the IFB in order to obtain the lowest price available in the open market.

These negotiations have resulted in an offer by Sumitomo to sell 15 light rail cars to the Commission for \$2.975 million per vehicle. These light rail cars comply with the specifications of the IFB and can be used on the Blue Line after service on the Green Line.

Pursuant to Public Utility Code Section 130237, the Commission may find that there is only one source that can timely manufacture a rail car with the exact specifications of the existing rail cars and which will duplicate and be compatible with the other rail cars on the Blue Line.

The applicable Public Utilities Code provisions require a two-thirds vote in order to purchase rail vehicles through negotiation.

Therefore, if the Commission desires to purchase 15 vehicles from Sumitomo based on the above circumstances and authorities, the Commission should; based upon the terms of the IFB, the fact that the Commission received no bids conforming to the IFB, the results of the investigation by staff and its negotiations: (1) reaffirm the rejection of the non-conforming submissions made to the IFB and, by two-thirds vote of all of its members; (2) find that there is only one source that can timely manufacture a rail car consistent with the specifications in the IFB; (3) further find that the purchase is for the sole purpose of duplicating vehicles currently in use on the Blue Line, in that the purchased vehicles will be used initially on the Green Line and subsequently on the Blue Line; and (4) declare that the vehicles may be purchased for the lowest available price in the open market, and direct the Executive Director to purchase 15 light rail vehicles from Sumitomo.

MINUTES



LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 403 West 8th St., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 626-0370

LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MAY 10, 1989

The Commission's issues meeting was called to order by Chair Reed at 1:45 p.m. in the Board of Supervisor's Hearing Room at the Hall of Administration.

Mr. Peterson indicated that he is in receipt of a letter from Supervisor Edelman designating Richard Callahan as his alternate for today's meeting.

Members in attendance were:

Council Member Christine E. Reed
Councilwoman Jacki Bacharach
Councilman Ray Grabinski
Councilman Nate Holden
Marcia Mednick
Mike Lewis, alternate to Supervisor Schabarum
Walter King, alternate to Supervisor Hahn
Richard Callahan, alternate to Supervisor Edelman
Barna Szabo, alternate to Supervisor Dana
Ray Remy, alternate to Mayor Bradley
Jerry Baxter, Ex-Officio for State of California

Staff members present:

Neil Peterson, Executive Director
David Kelsey, County Counsel
Kathy Torigoe, Executive Secretary
Elyse Kusunoki, Senior Secretary

COMMUTER RAIL STUDY SESSION

Mr. Peterson indicated that as part of an increased interest, not only here but around the country in commuter rail in the last several years, one of the railroads serving the Los Angeles area, the Southern Pacific, made a public announcement indicating interest in disposing of some of its assets. He thought that it is timely to review this issue at this time and asked Richard Stanger and Fred Silverman to make a presentation on commuter rail; how it's defined, what is the history in Los Angeles County and nationally, what some of the economics of it are, and what are the important issues.

Representatives from Southern Pacific and Sante Fe were invited to make brief presentations to the Commission.

Fred Silverman gave a slide presentation on commuter rail systems in the U.S. and Canada.

In the slide presentation, he made the following highlights:

- The basics of commuter rail
- Important commuter rail service features
- Economics of operations
- Operating cost concerns
- Southern California's Commuter Rail History
- Role of Santa Fe, Southern Pacific, and Union Pacific
- Commuter and Intercity Rail Service Overlap
- Intercounty coordination
- Southern Pacific Property Proposal

Then he introduced Mr. Doug Stevenson, Assistant Counsel for the Southern Pacific Railroad, who talked about the company's offer to the Commission to sell three rail lines.

- The State Street-Baldwin Park Line
- The West Santa Ana Line
- The Exposition Line

Mr. Stevenson discussed general concepts behind the SP's offer.

A question-and-answer period followed.

Following this presentation, Richard Stanger discussed what steps the Commission would be taking to advance commuter rail and intercity rail proposals for future consideration. The steps discussed included:

- Coordination of overall policy approach
- Work with Los Angeles County regarding Santa Fe's Second Subdivision

- Work with Southern Pacific on property issues
- Work with adjacent counties regarding common interests
- Participate in intercity rail improvement programs
- See if demonstration projects are possible
- Examine operation needs of Union Station
- Obtain staff to undertake these activities

Mr. Remy indicated that the Commission should acknowledge receipt of Councilwoman Flores's motion to the L.A. Council and report back as to how the Commission will involve those interested parties in discussions concerning the acquisition and development of rail transit on the rail rights of way offered for sale by Southern Pacific Transportation Company.

He also asked for clarification of commuter rail and light rail corridors.

Mrs. Bacharach asked that staff develop a public relations program along with the purchase of the rail lines.

Mr. Lewis asked for an implementation process to establish a framework for proceeding that the Commission and all agree on.

Mr. Peterson indicated that this matter will be discussed at the next Transit Committee meeting and that the Commission needs to get started with the two railroad companies.

Mr. King asked for a list from Southern Pacific immediately showing areas of potential development and an inventory of sections of land that have title problems.

Mrs. Reed advised that the City of Santa Monica had, prior to Southern Pacific's advertising these routes for sale, authorized the hiring of an appraiser to appraise Exposition Line. If the Commission preferred to take this effort off Santa Monica's hands, the Commission can make that offer. Otherwise, Santa Monica will pursue its efforts with the intention to share this information with the Commission.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Commissioner Travel Request:

Commissioners Reed and King had expressed an interest in attending the APTA Rapid Transit Conference on June 4-8, 1989 to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Commission approval was requested.

It was moved and seconded to approve the above travel. Hearing no objection, motion was carried.

- b. Notice of Meetings was received and noted.
- c. Mr. King asked that the matter requiring transit operators receiving federal funds to comply with federal drug-testing regulations be referred to the Transit Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alisa Katz of Councilman Yaroslavky's office commented on the commuter rail study and Exposition Line.


Jamison Handy of Transit Research Foundation commented on the Exposition Boulevard Southern Pacific Route.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:40 p.m., the Commission recessed into executive session to discuss pending litigation concerning the Foothill Transportation Zone; personnel matters pursuant to Government Code Section 54957; and pending litigation and the exposure to litigation concerning the Firestone Bridge collapse pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b).

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

for 
NEIL PETERSON
Executive Director

NP:kyt



A Streetcar Named Dissension

Transportation of the Future vs. NIMBY of the Present in Cheviot Hills

By Naomi Glauberman

Next time you're stuck in traffic on Wilshire Boulevard, or Olympic, or the Santa Monica Freeway, try to imagine a better way. How about a light electric train that runs from downtown to Santa Monica. Sounds good — but where?

Miraculously enough, an open rail West-Side-to-downtown right-of-way exists: a still-available stretch of track along Exposition Boulevard that served as both

\$150 billion in funds available over the next thirty years, and light rail on the Exposition corridor fits right into the program. But, in response to the community opposition, support-

During a fractious recent hearing at Hamilton High School, the residents of these neighborhoods didn't seem impressed by the various options, matrixes, slides, and explanations offered by the LACTC. Hand-

written questions focused on noise, pollution, property values, graffiti, crime, and security. Minutes from the busiest freeway intersection in the world, a questioner suggested the population was not dense enough to warrant a light rail. As the meeting was disrupted by bells jangling for night school classes, a voice called out, "This is what it will be like," and the crowd roared its approval. If the trains are not noisy, their silence becomes a safety hazard. At Hamilton High, the audience also hooted Inge's report that several studies had shown that commuter transit lines often were beneficial to property values.

The homeowners along the right-of-way are indignant; they act violated, betrayed. Many have been fighting the ever-expanding Westside Pavilion for years, and they do not see the transportation corridor as alleviating congestion but as more unnecessary development.

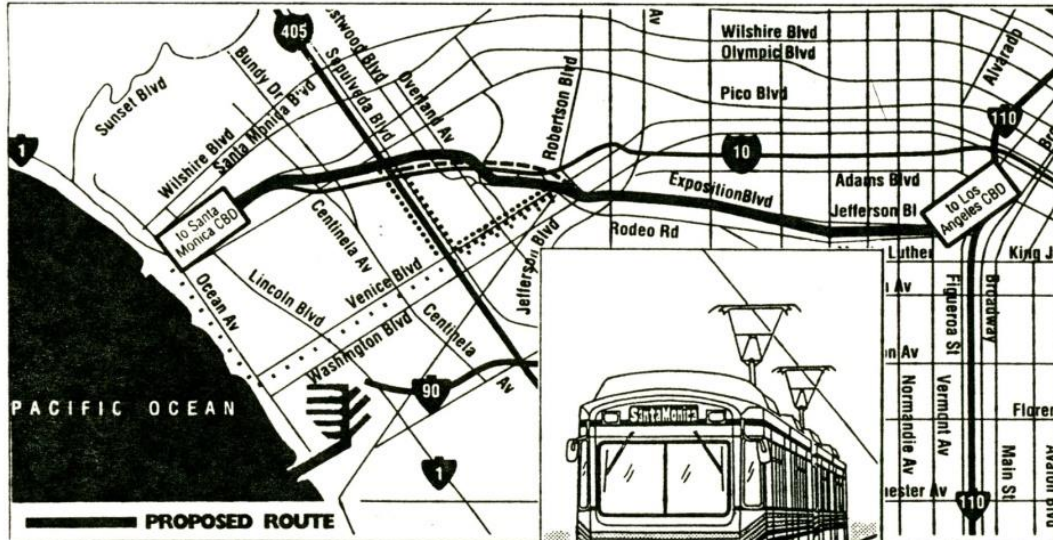
After the meeting, I took a Sunday morning walk along the right-of-way. Heading east from Sepulveda Boulevard, the track runs through a mix of industrial and residential neighborhoods; as it becomes predominantly residential, a street and high rows of oleanders separate the homes — mostly post-World War II — from the track that pre-dates them. There the right-of-way is one hundred feet wide from oleander to oleander. At

Westwood Boulevard, it widens to two hundred feet, enough room for a train line (which needs only about thirty feet), a bike path, and landscaping galore. At Overland, the tracks curve south and descend into a ravine lined with the spectacular remains of graffiti wars and graveyards of rusted spray cans far below the homes above. Nearby, a security guard dozes in his car. From the tunnel, the track climbs toward the roaring freeway. I had to wonder what noise and pollution people could be worrying about.

Not all residents are opposed, however. Jon Wiener, a historian and writer who has lived in Rancho Park for twelve years, thinks light rail "would be great for our neighborhood — it could get us downtown, or to the beach — and it would ease the terrible traffic problems around the Westside Pavilion." Although Wiener has supported the homeowners associations in past protests, he thinks their current stance is laden with code words. "They claim the train would bring 'graffiti' to the neighborhood. There's another word for their position. I'd call it racism. They're preoccupied with the possibility that nonwhite kids will get off the train in their neighborhood and lower their property values."

Whatever the residents' real anxieties, the opportunity exists: a corridor in which anything — trains, trolley, light rails, electric buses, parkways, bikeways — is possible without major demolition, condemnation, or excavation. The LACTC will be holding community meetings through next year to decide what will eventually be done, leading up to the preparation of an environmental impact statement. ■

Further info: Carol Inge, LACTC: 244-6896. Contact the Exposition Rail Committee, "an independent citizens group volunteering time in support of the Exposition right-of-way's best use as a light rail line serving the Westside," at 394-3799.



a commuter and freight line for almost a century. The city of Santa Monica is enthusiastic about putting it back into service as an electric passenger line. But the plan must overcome objections from homeowners associations in Rancho Park and Cheviot Hills, which have responded as if nuclear waste might be dumped in their back yards.

Despite the objections, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) bought from Southern Pacific the right-of-way, offered for sale two years ago, to "preserve our options," according to Carol Inge, project director of a planning study for the corridor. As a result of voter referendums and bond measures in support of public transit, the county will have

ed by Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky, who has chosen this issue to get tough on rather than the Westside Pavilion, Beverly Center, Farmer's Market, or Westwood overdevelopment, LACTC is now saying that a rail route along the Exposition corridor is just one of many possible alternatives. These include four additional routes, all swinging a wide, expensive loop around Rancho Park and Cheviot Hills.