

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

November 21, 2003

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, November 21, 2003 at the Watsonville City Council Chambers, 250 Main Street, Watsonville, CA

Chairperson Reilly called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and announced that there would be no Closed Session today.

SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

1. ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Jan Beautz (arrived after roll call)
Michelle Hinkle
Mike Keogh
Dennis Norton
Emily Reilly
Mike Rotkin
Ex-Officio Wes Scott (arrived after roll call)
Pat Spence
Marcela Tavantzis

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Sheryl Ainsworth
Ana Ventura Phares

STAFF PRESENT

Bryant Baehr, Operations Manager	Elisabeth Ross, Finance Manager
Mark Dorfman, Assistant General Manager	Robyn Slater, Interim H.R. Manager
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel	Judy Souza, Base Superintendent
David Konno, Facilities Maintenance Mgr.	Tom Stickel, Fleet Maint. Manager
Steve Paulson, Paratransit Administrator	Les White, General Manager

EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT

Heather Boerner, <i>Sentinel</i>	Will Regan, VMU
Richard Camperud, Courtesy Cab	Paul Marcelin-Sampson, Metro Riders Union
Mark Hartunian, Community Bridges Board	Link Spooner, Lift Line
Gary Klemz, SEIU	Sam Story, Community Bridges
Jeff LeBlanc, Rider	Jim Taylor, UTU
Manny Martinez, PSA	Bob Yount, MASTF
Ian McFadden, SEA	Amy Weiss, Interpreter
Bonnie Morr, UTU	Linda Wilshusen, SCCRTC

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Written:

a. R. Paul Marcelin-Sampson RE: Marketing of METRO Services

Oral:

Bob Yount spoke on behalf of MASTF and read the following Motions from MASTF to the Board:

- 1) MASTF accepts the following MASTF By-Laws amendment that inserts a new subsection into Section 4, Conduct of Meetings:
“f.) Upon receipt of written communication from the Chair of the Board of Directors, or the General Manager, requesting that MASTF consider an issue, such issue will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of MASTF providing that the request has been received at least 72 hours prior to such meeting.”
- 2) MASTF approves the following MASTF By-Laws amendment that inserts the language bracketed in quotation marks into Section 5, Voting Rights:
Members who have attended one of the two previous MASTF meetings shall be granted MASTF voting rights and have one vote each. “The minimum voting age for a MASTF member is 18 years old”.

He added the MASTF elections were held yesterday for 2004:

MASTF Chair -	Sharon Barbour
Vice Chair -	Robert Yount
Bus Stop Improvement Chair -	Jeff LeBlanc
Bus Services Committee Chair -	Connie Day
Training Procedures Chair -	Lesley Wright
MASTF Representative to ParaCruz -	Ernestina Saldana

Paul Marcelin-Sampson stated that he is looking forward to having eight of the METRO Board meetings held in Watsonville and having meetings held in Spanish. He distributed copies of the 2nd edition of the Metro Riders Union newsletter to the Board along with a copy of the Metro Riders Union Code of Conduct for distributing newsletters at METRO’s transit centers. A copy of these items are attached to the minutes. Mr. Marcelin-Sampson expressed his desire to interview Board members and asked that any interested Directors let him know if they would like to participate in the interview. He pointed out the lead story in the newsletter which concerns a cartoon he found on the UTU’s website. He added that he wants to display these cartoons for the Board when a projector is available. He stated that he hopes UTU will apologize to the bus riders for these cartoons.

Jim Monroe introduced himself as the pending new owner of Santa Cruz Transportation; he is currently in negotiations to purchase this business. He expressed his desire to fully cooperate with METRO in the future and appreciates anything METRO has done to further ADA.

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

Nothing to report.

4. **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS**

In addition to the following add-on items, a letter from Community Bridges was distributed to the Board and is attached to these minutes.

SECTION I:
OPEN SESSION:

CONSENT AGENDA:

- ADD TO ITEM #5-1** APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2003
(Insert Revised Minutes of October 24, 2003)
- ADD TO ITEM #5-3** ACCEPT AND FILE OCTOBER 2003 RIDERSHIP REPORT
(Add Page One of Ridership Report)
- ADD TO ITEM #5-11** ACCEPT AND FILE METROBASE STATUS REPORT
(Add Correct Project Schedule)

REGULAR AGENDA:

- ADD TO ITEM #9** CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR EMPLOYEE DENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE
(Add Revised Staff Report)
- DELETE ITEM #11** CONSIDERATION OF ENTERING INTO AN INTERIM CONTRACT WITH FIRST ALARM SECURITY OF SANTA CRUZ FOR THE PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES FROM NOVEMBER 14, 2003 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2003
(Action was Taken at the November 14, 2003 Board Meeting)
- DELETE ITEM #13** ANNOUNCEMENT: NOTIFICATION OF MEETING LOCATION FOR NOVEMBER 21, 2003 – WATSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 250 MAIN STREET, WATSONVILLE
(Announcement was made at the November 14, 2003 Board Meeting)
- ADD TO ITEM #14** CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTING A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE AS THE METRO REPRESENTATIVE TO THE HIGHWAY 1 WIDENING/HOV JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
(Add Staff Report)
- ADD TO ITEM #15** CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR PRINTING OF THE *HEADWAYS*
(Add Staff Report)
- ADD TO ITEM #16** CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO REQUEST AN ADVANCE PAYMENT OF URBANIZED AREA FORMULA FUNDS IN FY 2004 FROM CALTRANS FOR ONE-TIME CAPITAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS
(Add Staff Report)

CONSENT AGENDA

5-1. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10 AND OCTOBER 24, 2003

Director Spence confirmed that her requested changes have been made to the October 24th minutes. Mr. White added that there was extensive discussion regarding MASTF but that the Board's motion did not officially reflect this. He will bring back a report in December which further clarifies the Board's intentions in order to eliminate any confusion as to what METRO will provide to MASTF. He will also bring back information regarding the Metro Advisory Committee (MAC), such as application forms, timelines, and the interview process.

5-2. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS

5-3. ACCEPT AND FILE OCTOBER 2003 RIDERSHIP REPORT

5-4. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: None

5-5. ACCEPT AND FILE AGENDA FOR THE MASTF COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2003 AND THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2003 MEETING

5-6. ACCEPT AND FILE AGENDA FOR THE MUG COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2003 AND THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2003 MEETING

Director Hinkle informed the Board that MUG made a motion at its meeting of November 19th to make that the last official meeting of the Metro Users Group in order to allow staff time to devote to other issues. Mr. White added that he would recommend to the Board that the MUG members be recognized for their contributions to the transit community.

5-7. ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2003 AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

5-8. ACCEPT AND FILE PARACRUZ STATUS REPORT FOR AUGUST 2003

5-9. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2003

5-10. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE

5-11. ACCEPT AND FILE METROBASE STATUS REPORT

Director Keogh confirmed that there is no slippage in the MetroBase schedule. Mr. White stated that staff would bring actions to the Board in January when the architectural team will also be present. The Phase II Feasibility Study will also be brought before the Board in January.

5-12. ACCEPT AND FILE SANTA CRUZ NEEDLE EXCHANGE REPORT FOR TRANSIT CENTERS

5-13. ACCEPT AND FILE FOLLOW-UP REPORT ON RECENT PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

5-14. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDED TDA CLAIM FOR FY 2004

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Approve Consent Agenda with the understanding that the Board, by affirmative vote, is casting a unanimous roll call vote for Item #5-14.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth and Phares being absent.

Margaret Gallagher asked that the Board make the necessary finding to include the following item on this agenda:

CONSIDERATION OF RATIFYING SANTA CRUZ METRO'S JOINING THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC ENTITY INSURANCE AUTHORITY JOINT POWERS

AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO EXCESS WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE COVERAGE AND APPROVE THE EXCESS WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION WHICH AUTHORIZES WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER FOR SANTA CRUZ METRO

Ms. Gallagher added that the Board approved the insurance coverage but staff was made aware after the agenda posting that METRO needed to belong to a JPA to access the insurance coverage.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Make the necessary finding that this issue came to the Board's attention after the Brown Act deadline and constitutes an emergency situation.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth and Phares being absent.

This Item will become #16.5 on the agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

The following employees were acknowledged with longevity certificates for their years of service:

FIFTEEN YEARS

Roberto (OJ) Ojeda, Mechanic II
(currently activated through U.S. Reserves)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Patricia Clark, Bus Operator
Shelton Crutch, Transit Supervisor
David Konno, Facilities Maintenance Manager

7. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF DIRECTING METRO STAFF TO PREPARE A TRANSITION PLAN FOR THE DIRECT OPERATION OF PARACRUZ SERVICE FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN DECEMBER 2003

Summary:

Les White clarified that his intention was to present the transition plan to directly operate ADA service to the Board in December; not to actually begin the direct operation in December 2003. He added that staff's recommendation was in response to communication from Community Bridges to look at the development of a transition plan that would provide for direct operation of this service by METRO. Mr. White received a letter from Community Bridges dated November 19th that clarifies information concerning the 18% increase which was referred to in their letter of November 6th. Mr. White reviewed the current budget shortfalls and increased costs throughout

the district and explained how an 18% increase to Community Bridges would affect METRO. He added that a preliminary analysis shows that it might be possible to utilize one-time capital funds to lower operating costs on a long-term basis in order to operate direct ADA service on a level that is comparative with Community Bridges. Staff's recommendation is that METRO could operate this service at a competitive or lower cost than Community Bridges with the 18% increase. Information on where capital funds would be obtained, start-up time and a transitional plan will be brought back to the Board. Staff's goals in operating this service in-house would be: 1) to provide maximum quality and quantity of service and comply with the law; 2) ensure that staff is not forced to return to the Board to cut fixed route service in order to fund ADA service. Staff also recommends that the Board authorize staff to examine alternatives, including utilization of another private operator. Lastly, Mr. White emphasized that it is important to ensure that there is no ripple affect on the other programs that Community Bridges offers by bringing the ADA service in-house.

Discussion:

Director Rotkin referred to Community Bridges' letter requesting an 18% increase and expressed concern regarding the letter distributed at the meeting stating that the 18% increase is not essential. He asked Mr. White if he has a clear sense that METRO would move to the transition plan; and, does it make sense to stay with Community Bridges now that the 18% increase is not mandatory? Mr. White responded that he feels there is a way to do some co-mingling if he is convinced of cost savings and improvement of service and without negatively impacting ADA requirements then he would support staying with Community Bridges. However, Mr. White has concerns regarding the deployment of the ParaCruz vehicles since METRO prohibits them from being used as taxicabs. He is also concerned with Community Bridges' statement for METRO's willingness to provide financial support when unforeseen circumstances arise.

Mr. White mentioned that there is a national focus on paratransit denials, travel times, call wait times and vehicle deployment. FTA is looking closely at ADA.

DISTRICT COUNSEL GALLAGHER LEFT THE MEETING.

Mr. White stated that there would be a staff report to the Board in December regarding the co-mingling of rides. There was discussion of the cost-of-living adjustment retroactive to July 2003 and the impact to the District. Director Spence asked what criteria would be used to determine if withdrawing ADA service would affect the other programs. Mr. White referred to the November 6th letter from Community Bridges that stated due to METRO's restrictions the funding on an hourly basis is not meeting the cost to provide the service. Therefore, monies from other programs have been moved to subsidize this. However, extraction of the ADA program should relieve the financial burden being placed on the other programs. Director Spence asked for a profit and loss statement showing income received from the other Community Bridges' programs to be used as a comparison to ADA costs.

Sam Story, CEO of Community Bridges, gave a brief background on how the situation evolved to where it is today and why he wrote the letter of November 19th. One concern was taking on seventeen new vehicles in the current climate of declining ADA rides. The contract does not mandate that Community Bridges take on these new vehicles. He discussed the co-mingling

issue and stressed that everything possible should be done to increase capacity of ADA rides while being economical as possible. He added that staffing levels are not consistent with the RFP which was based on the assumption of ride levels. With decreased ADA ridership, staffing levels cannot be maintained. He is concerned that a level of cooperation between METRO, UTU and Community Bridges could not be reached in order to achieve the staffing level suitable for the current ridership. Mr. Story recapped the number of rides completed by taxi sub-contractors in October and November. He added that if the ultimate goal of METRO is to take back the ADA rides, then METRO should do it now as Community Bridges does not want to be merely a place holder. Lastly, Mr. Story stated that the ADA provider should be watchful for an increase in ADA ridership in the spring. If funds are shifted to other areas, this would put the provider in a difficult position.

Director Beautz asked for a report from Margaret Gallagher on her analysis of the latest court cases involving paratransit. Director Beautz added that it would take an amendment to the contract to allow co-mingling to occur.

Director Rotkin stated that if the ADA service remains with Community Bridges, there would need to be clarification in the contract as to staffing levels. Mr. Story suggested that maybe an incremental cost of providing a minimum level of compliance could be looked at. Les White commented on the contract as it guaranteed an 85,000 ridership level and hours associated with this. He added that during contract negotiations Community Bridges asked for the 70% taxicab rides percentage to be removed, for twelve vehicles and for additional vehicles to deliver rides instead of going to taxicabs. The Board directed staff to provide the vehicles and removed this requirement from the mid-contract and carried forward the removal of no 70% sub-contractor allocation requirement at that time.

Mark Hartunian, President and Board Chair of the Community Bridges Board, asked that the Board be mindful of the following issues: 1) Economic challenges since 9/11 and the state's economic problems; 2) ADA service has been provided by Community Bridges for eleven years with no court challenges and providing more rides with fewer employees; 3) Taking on UTU in an attempt to meet the living wage requirements had economic consequences. He added that Community Bridges experienced a \$750,000 budget deficit last year and balanced the budget this year.

Link Spooner, Director of Lift Line, assured the Board that Lift Line is committed to providing services for the elderly and disabled in this community. R. Paul Marcel-Sampson of Metro Riders Union expressed concern about Community Bridges utilizing other program funds to subsidize the ADA program and METRO's ability to meet the legal obligation to the disabled community and preserve as much of the fixed route system. He asked for a full accounting from Community Bridges and from METRO for providing ParaCruz service; when did funds from other programs start being used and what can be done about this.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Direct staff to return in December with a plan for transition to bring ParaCruz service in-house. Present the Board with a clear accounting of both sides of the ledger concerning what changes would be necessary if we didn't bring the service in-house to maintain the

service with Lift Line. Information is needed from Community Bridges by November 26, 2003.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

Direct District Counsel to report on the latest paratransit court cases.

DIRECTOR SPENCE LEFT THE ROOM.

Director Tavantzis asked how bringing this service in-house would fit into METRO's current organizational structure. Director Rotkin asked if the same medical premium costs that are now included in the current benefit plan for UTU be given to the paratransit drivers.

THE VOTE WAS DEFERRED UNTIL DIRECTOR SPENCE RETURNED TO THE MEETING.

CHAIRPERSON REILLY STATED THAT ITEMS 8, 9 AND 15 WOULD BE COMBINED, HOWEVER, ITEM #10 WAS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER AT THIS TIME.

10. CONSIDERATION OF RENEGOTIATED CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Discussion:

Ex Officio Director Wes Scott stated that METRO and UCSC staff worked for the last several months to develop a new agreement that would address changes in the rates being charge to riders. A mutually agreeable contract was devised and presented to several committees, the university council and student union assembly. The student union assembly asked for more information about the contract and would like to meet with METRO staff. Mark Dorfman replied that he would be willing to meet with the student union representatives. Invitations will be sent to members of the Board to attend as well. Director Scott suggested holding a workshop and Director Reilly stated that she would like to attend this. Staff is requesting that the Board approve the draft contract. Mr. Dorfman stated that staff is working to make this contract retroactive.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR NORTON SECOND: DIRECTOR KEOGH

Authorize the General Manager to execute a renegotiated contract with UCSC per the draft contract in the agenda packet.

Motion passed with Directors Ainsworth, Phares and Spence being absent.

**DIRECTOR SPENCE RETURNED TO THE MEETING.
DIRECTOR KEOGH LEFT THE MEETING.**

ACTION: VOTE FOR ITEM #7:

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Ainsworth, Keogh and Phares being absent.

8. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CONTRACT FOR REVENUE AND NON-REVENUE TIRES

Summary:

Tom Stickel reported that this is for a contract extension for another year. There has been an increase in accordance with the CPI.

9. CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR EMPLOYEE DENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE

Summary:

The current contract expires in December 2003. Staff received five responses to the Request for Proposals that were sent out. Participants on the interview panel consisted of staff and members of both UTU and SEIU. It was recommended that the contract be awarded to Pacific Care Dental and Vision.

15. CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR PRINTING OF THE HEADWAYS

Summary:

This is for a contract renewal for the printing of the *Headways* publication and is an extendable contract for an additional year. It was noted that this expense is budgeted under the Customer Service Department.

**DIRECTOR KEOGH RETURNED TO THE MEETING.
DIRECTOR TAVANTZIS LEFT THE MEETING.**

Gary Klemz of SEIU spoke regarding the lack of providers on the list of Pacific Care compared to those offered by Delta Dental, METRO's previous dental carrier. He met with the District to obtain clarification on the current benefits. Mr. Klemz stated that the District made commitments to communicate with the Board and vendor regarding a proactive approach to obtain more providers. In the future, SEIU would like to see criteria that would give a higher number of points to the vendor who has a greater number of providers.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Adopt staff recommendations as follows for Items 8, 9 and 15:

- 8. Authorize the General Manager to execute an amendment to the contract with Dixon and Son, Inc. to extend the term of the contract for one (1) additional year.**
- 9. Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract for employee dental insurance coverage with PacifiCare Dental & Vision Administrators. Request that staff continue to work with the unions to see that METRO**

provides the best possible dental care and make sure concerns are addressed to the main provider.

15. Authorize the General Manager to execute an amendment to the contract with Folger Graphics to extend the term of the contract for one (1) additional year.

Motion passed with Directors Ainsworth, Phares and Tavantzis being absent.

11. DELETED – ACTION TAKEN AT THE NOVEMBER 14, 2003 BOARD MEETING
12. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE THE WATSONVILLE HOLIDAY SHUTTLE

Summary:

Les White received a request to provide a shuttle for the holidays. The City of Watsonville indicated that it has funds available for the operating costs of the shuttle. The City of Santa Cruz is the authorizing authority for the shuttle usage and they have consented to this request. The shuttle would be utilized December 1 – 24, 2003.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR KEOGH SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Authorize operation of the fare-free Holiday Shuttle for the City of Watsonville.

Motion passed with Directors Ainsworth, Phares and Tavantzis being absent.

13. DELETED – ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE AT THE NOVEMBER 14, 2003 BOARD MEETING

ITEM #16.5 WHICH WAS ADDED TO THE AGENDA AS AN EMERGENCY ITEM WAS TAKEN AT THIS TIME.

- 16.5 CONSIDERATION OF RATIFYING SANTA CRUZ METRO'S JOINING THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC ENTITY INSURANCE AUTHORITY JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO EXCESS WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE COVERAGE AND APPROVE THE EXCESS WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION WHICH AUTHORIZES WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER FOR SANTA CRUZ METRO

DIRECTOR TAVANTZIS RETURNED TO THE MEETING.

Summary:

Mark Dorfman asked the Board to ratify METRO joining the JPA and to approve the Workers' Compensation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Staff is also asking the Board to adopt the resolution which will allow Workers's Compensation coverage to be extended to volunteers.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR KEOGH SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Ratify Santa Cruz METRO's joining the California Public Entity Insurance Authority Joint Powers Agreement, which allows METRO access to excess workers' compensation insurance coverage, approve the excess Workers' Compensation Program MOU and adopt the resolution, which authorized workers' compensation coverage to those who volunteer for Santa Cruz METRO.

Motion passed with Directors Ainsworth and Phares being absent.

16. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTING A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE AS THE METRO REPRESENTATIVE TO THE HIGHWAY 1 WIDENING/HOV JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (JPA)

Summary:

Les White reported that the County of Santa Cruz and Cities of Capitola, Watsonville and Scotts Valley all voted to join the JPA. However, the City of Santa Cruz declined to join. The first organizational meeting will be held on December 5, 2003. METRO currently has an appointee to the working group, however, this appointment expires at the end of December. No appointment has yet been made to the JPA. Staff recommends that an appointment be made to the JPA and authorize said appointee to attend the December 5th organizational meeting.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR BEAUTZ SECOND: DIRECTOR NORTON

Appoint Director Tavantzis as representative to the JPA and appoint Director Keogh as the alternate.

Motion passed with Directors Ainsworth and Phares being absent.

16. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO REQUEST AN ADVANCE PAYMENT OF URBANIZED AREA FORMULA FUNDS IN FY 2004 FROM CALTRANS FOR ONE-TIME CAPITAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Summary:

Mark Dorfman reported that federal funds are available but the funds would be an advance of future years' monies. Staff proposes that METRO request up to \$350,000 for capital one-time, non-recurring expenditures without affecting the operating budget. Federal allocations would be reduced by an equivalent amount each year for five years. This would afford METRO the flexibility to make a decision on paratransit while acquiring funds now to take this service in-house. Mr. Dorfman added that there would be no interest on these advance funds.

EX OFFICIO DIRECTOR SCOTT LEFT THE MEETING.

Les White added that as a supplemental benefit this would satisfy FTA's need to obligate formula funds now since agencies under 200,000 are unable to draw down from discretion earmark funds.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR KEOGH

Authorize the General Manager to submit a request to Caltrans for a one-time capital advance of urbanized area formula funds from future years' apportionments.

Motion passed with Directors Ainsworth and Phares being absent.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairperson Reilly adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Dale Carr
Administrative Services Coordinator