



Metro

Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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**SYSTEMS SAFETY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MARCH 15, 2012**

SUBJECT: REGIONAL TAP PROGRAM

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT ON REGIONAL TAP WORKING GROUP

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file report on Regional TAP Working Group.

ISSUE

In an effort to increase regional participation in the TAP program, the City of Los Angeles hosted a summit with municipal bus operators in January 2012. The municipal operators were asked to identify items that would need to be addressed by Metro in order to successfully integrate the TAP program into their fare systems. The operators identified several issues and agreed to participate in a working group consisting of participating TAP operators, non-TAP operators and appropriate Metro staff. At its February meeting, the Board directed staff (motion by Director Huizar) to: 1) advance this committee, 2) report back in March with an update on the seven items, and 3) identify the items to be elevated to the Board for policy consideration. This report provides a status of the Regional TAP Working Group's efforts thus far.

DISCUSSION

The City of Los Angeles hosted a summit on January 31, 2012 to increase regional participation in the TAP program and included members of the Los Angeles County Municipal Operators Association (LACMOA). LACMOA identified seven core issues related to TAP integration that need to be addressed and submitted them in a letter dated January 30, 2012 (Attachment A). The items are listed as follows:

- Migration of EZ Transit Pass to TAP
- Migration of Interagency Transfers (IAT) to TAP
- Finalization of business/operating rules
- Provision of information about light validators
- Follow up on TAP enhancements
- Improved coordination and communications
- Reconciliation of clearinghouse

As directed by the motion, staff has invited LACMOA members to participate in a working group consisting of participating TAP operators, non-TAP operators (ideally

three and three) and appropriate technical, policy and financial staff from Metro. A meeting with the general managers of the municipal operators has been scheduled for February 29. Staff will report back to the Systems Safety and Operations Committee with results from the meeting, any follow up meetings and next steps.

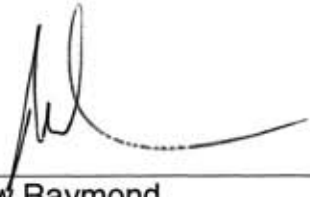
NEXT STEPS

Staff will convene the working group to address the regional issues identified and report back to the Board with progress, next steps and/or the need to make policy decisions to implement the regional TAP system.

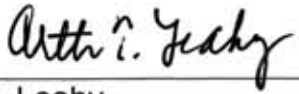
ATTACHMENT

A. LACMOA letter dated January 30, 2012

Prepared by: Matthew Raymond, Chief Communications Officer



Matthew Raymond
Chief Communications Officer



Arthur T. Leahy
Chief Executive Officer

January 30, 2012

Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa:

On behalf of LACMOA, we would like to extend our thanks to you for setting up the Countywide Transit Access Pass Workshop.

On Wednesday, January 25th, representatives from LACMOA identified several outstanding key issues surrounding the effort to move TAP forward as a regional fare media.

The TAP Issues are listed as follows:

Migration of paper EZ Pass to TAP

- Establish a TAP working group to discuss and resolve important technical, administrative, and policy issues
- Need to include the proper Metro staff members to address each specific area of concern

Migration of interagency transfers to TAP

- Establish a comprehensive plan on how to migrate paper transfers onto TAP.
- Establish a transfer policy working group to discuss and resolve important technical, administrative, and policy issues.
- Need to include the proper Metro staff members to address each specific area of concern.

Finalization of Business/Operating Rules

- Metro needs to address a few outstanding items which have been previously brought forth to Metro staff. LACMOA will provide a list of outstanding items to Metro staff.



Municipal Operators seeking information regarding light validators

- Metro and Cubic needs to setup up a meeting/demonstration with interested parties to help agencies evaluate the technology and operation, and identify funding for additional costs associated with the implementation of TAP.
- Metro and Cubic need to provide additional information regarding administrative and data related issues with interested parties to help agencies implement and integrate light validators, TAP or new TAP related technologies into their existing systems.
- Metro needs to update municipal operators on any new TAP related technologies that are available, including strategies to comply with the proposed super-regional system (open architecture).

Follow up on TAP Enhancements

- Metro to follow up on enhancements, program fixes which Metro agreed to.
- LACMOA will provide a list of enhancements which are still outstanding

Improved Coordination and Communication

- Metro should abide by their previous agreement with the Municipal Operators by providing information in advance on any program change, fare products, and enhancements.
- Metro to provide monthly updates on the activities of TAP.

Reconciliation of Clearinghouse

- Metro to provide more detailed and specific banking information in order to establish transparency for participants.

Many of these items are in progress or close to being resolved. However, for some of the larger issues, it will take the commitment of all of the transit agencies to work together collectively in order to achieve the goal of delivering a regional seamless fare media for our customers.

Sincerely,



Art Ida
Chair, LACMOA
Transportation Director
Culver CityBus