MINUTES

Special Board Meeting
Board of Directors

One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room

Called to Order at 10:10 A.M.

Directors Present:

Ara J. Najarian, Chair
Don Knabe, 1st Vice Chair
Antonio Villaraigosa, 2nd Vice Chair
Diane DuBois
John Fasana
José Huizar
Richard Katz
Rita Robinson
Zev Yaroslavsky

Officers

Arthur T. Leahy, Chief Executive Officer
Michele Jackson, Board Secretary
Karen Gorman, Ethics Officer
Karen Gorman, Acting Inspector General
County Counsel, General Counsel
1. RECEIVED AND FILED staff report regarding adopted fare changes to become effective on July 1, 2010.

Chair Najarian convened the meeting and began his remarks by informing the audience that six regional fare forums were held that sought input from several riders at six locations throughout Los Angeles County prior to the Special Board meeting held May 24, 2007 that authorized a fare increase to be implemented in three phases over a six year time period. The Chair asked whether lapsed time or changes in the economy invalidate the Title VI findings that were provided in 2007. Interim Planning Officer Doug Failing responded that the findings remain valid and that the findings were updated in March 2010. He also noted the pending increase would have taken effect in July of 2009 but was postponed because of the passage of Measure R, a transportation sales tax initiative on the November 2008 ballot. Deputy Executive Officer of Planning Conan Cheung added that more than 700 public comments (written, oral or otherwise) were submitted, that only regular fares would increase (elderly, disabled and student fares would not be impacted for another three years) and that the fare change is only the third in over fifteen years, leaving the agency with some of the lowest fares among peer agencies in the nation.

Chief Executive Officer Art Leahy concluded the presentation by stating his seven goals to guide the agency in the upcoming year to improve our transit system into a world class public transit system. He reiterated the financial problems that the agency will face in the upcoming year and said the fare increase needs to proceed in order to avoid further negative impacts to the transit system.

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2. RECEIVED public comment.

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RECEIVED Directors' Questions and Comments regarding staff report

Director Huizar asked whether the Rider Relief Transportation Subsidy Program would remain the same under the FY 2011 budget or be increased to compensate for the increase in fares. Interim Chief Planning Officer Failing responded that subsidies were increased for the subsidy program in FY 2011.

ADJOURNED at 10:55 A.M.

Prepared by: William Walker
Board Specialist

Michele Jackson
Board Secretary