

California Transportation Commission Committee on Mass Transportation Minutes

Tuesday, May 6, 2003
Sacramento

The meeting came to order at 12:38 pm. Present were Co-chairs McKenna and Tavaglione. Commissioner Torres was absent.

1. Approval of February 26 and March 12, 2003 Minutes

The Committee approved the minutes of February and March meetings as prepared.

2. Transit White Paper – Presentation of Baseline Transit Information

Robert Chung, CTC staff, presented the staff proposal for developing a baseline of information that can be used as part of transit white paper. The information to be used would come from the Federal Transit Administration database and the methodology for developing the transit white paper. The Committee concurred with using the Federal Transit Agency national database for developing a deeper understanding of transit in California and nationwide. Performance criteria and proposed methodology were also discussed. He presented an example of the data looking at the largest 15 California transit operators.

Discussion included:

- The Committee considering using the California Controller's Office information rather than the FTA information. Using the California information could limit the national comparison, since California collects information only for California.
- Identifying best practices by transit agencies
- A request by medium and small operators to be added to the white paper. Staff pointed out that the largest 15 operators, in terms of ridership, were being considered first and that medium and small operators would also be included.
- Concern expressed by Caltrans about focusing too much on "outgo" and not outcome and being "gamed" by transit operators.
- Using specific studies to look at key times when the farebox ratio would be much higher than the average. These studies would not lend themselves to the broad context of examining transit on a statewide basis.

3. Intercity Rail White Paper – Presentation of Outline

Robert Chung, CTC staff, presented the staff proposal for Intercity Rail White paper. The Outline was approved with minor changes to include capital funding.

4. Other Matters

Under other matters, Caltrans staff was requested to discuss with the Capitol Corridor JPA the Capitol's recent poor on-time performance and whether the Commission could assist the JPA bringing the issue to the attention of UP.

Hearing no other matters, the Committee adjourned at 1:43 pm