



Minutes

1313th Meeting of the Board of Directors December 21, 2006

Mrs. Mack called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. Present were:

Directors

Mrs. Gladys Mack
Mr. Charles Deegan
Mr. Christopher Zimmerman
Mr. Jim Graham (*left @ 11:40 a.m.*)
Mr. Dana Kauffman

Alternate Directors

Ms. Michelle Pourciau
Mr. Marcell Solomon (*left @ 12:20 p.m.*)
Mr. William Euille (*left @ 12:10 p.m.*)
Mr. Gordon Linton
Mrs. Catherine Hudgins

Staff

Mr. Jack Requa
Mr. Steven Feil
Mr. Raymond Feldmann
Mr. Fred Goodine
Ms. Brender Gregory
Mr. James Haggins
Mr. Michael Daly

Mr. James Hughes
Ms. Debra Johnson
Ms. Carol O'Keeffe
Mr. Phil Wallace
Mr. Edward Thomas
Mr. Charles Woodruff
Mr. Steve Yaffe

Approval of Agenda:

Mrs. Mack moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, that the agenda be approved. The agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the November 16, 2006 meeting were approved as submitted.

Report by Riders' Advisory Council (RAC):

Mr. Jaffe stated that at the December 6, 2006 RAC meeting, a discussion ensued regarding 1) WMATA giving more consideration to and seeking the opinions of the RAC, Elderly & Disabled Committee, and other rider advocate organizations in

**Washington
Metropolitan Area
Transit Authority**

600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
202/962-1234

*By Metrorail:
Judiciary Square-Red Line
Gallery Place-Chinatown
Red, Green and
Yellow Lines*

*A District of Columbia
Maryland and Virginia
Transit Partnership*

decision-making processes; 2) availability of electronic registration to be informed of Town Hall meetings, public hearings, and other public meetings; 3) advocacy of a 3-foot by 3-foot square displaying the international symbol for accessibility at bus stops; and 4) institution of customer service satisfaction surveys.

Comments were also made by Mr. Jaffe regarding the proposed FY08 Budget, specifically: 1) the timing of the release of budget information prior to Budget committee meetings; 2) the use of monthly and weekly bus passes; and 3) the proposed service cutbacks of later weekend openings adversely affecting the transit-dependent.

Additionally, Mr. Jaffe discussed improvements in customer communications, such as: 1) customer-friendly information dissemination, especially with respect to SmarTrip[®] usage on buses; 2) increasing the visibility of the Metro Transit Police's phone number on both bus and rail vehicles, bus shelters and metrorail stations through size and occurrence; and 3) customer outreach for projects, such as the Georgia Avenue-Petworth west station entrance closing.

Finally, Mr. Jaffe thanked Mrs. Mack and Mr. Kauffman for their responsiveness on RAC issues, especially MetroAccess and encouraged the public comment periods at Board committee meetings.

Mrs. Mack thanked Mr. Jaffe for his leadership and tenacity in bringing forth issues of the riders to the Board. Additionally, Mrs. Mack acknowledged his leadership in joint issues of the Board and RAC, such as MetroAccess and co-sponsorship of Town Hall meetings.

Mrs. Mack further commented that the electronic registration suggestion should be accommodated by staff, the international symbol of accessibility located at bus stops would be helpful, and agrees that bus SmarTrip[®] usage should be studied and advocated in a more customer-friendly manner, the review of the one-day pass and usage on buses, and visibility of Metro Transit Police contact numbers on all bus, rail, and MetroAccess vehicles and facilities.

Mr. Kauffman echoed Mrs. Mack's comments and acknowledged Mr. Jaffe's contributions as the first Chair of the Riders' Advisory Council.

Mr. Jaffe further commented that obtaining a SmarTrip[®] card is more difficult for bus riders than for rail riders.

Mr. Graham noted that approval of MetroAccess door-to-door service should be contingent upon assurances by the contractor that this service can be achieved for under \$30,000. Additionally, Mr. Graham inquired of the ultimate cost of implementing the door-to-door service.

Mrs. Mack commented further that, as the use of SmarTrip[®] expands, the issue of accessibility will be addressed by the Board.

Public Comment Period:

Eleven persons registered to speak during the public comment period conducted at this meeting:

1. Ms. Ilene Cunningham addressed the Board regarding WMATA's public restroom policy. Additionally, Ms. Cunningham supports improved walking, bus, wheelchair, and bus access to, as well as improved lighting and safety at, the Rhode Island Avenue station.

Mrs. Mack asked that Mr. Requa address the public's use of WMATA's restrooms immediately. Mr. Kauffman and Mr. Zimmerman reiterated Mrs. Mack's comments. Mr. Linton further commented that security procedures should be examined to accommodate both safety and access to WMATA facilities, including escorts to the restrooms, if necessary. Mrs. Hudgins commented that, whether at a station or a building, WMATA should make the commitment to provide access to restrooms and explicitly state the conditions for that access.

2. Rev. Gloria Sweringa addressed the Board regarding her disappointment in MetroAccess service. She requested that attention be given to the problems that are not currently being addressed, such as better service, complaint resolution and safety.
3. Ms. Annie Long addressed the Board regarding Rhode Island Avenue Station public hearing number 169, Docket R05-2, in support of proposed parking reductions. She stated that WMATA and the District should invest more into improved walking, bus, wheelchair and bike access to the station. She suggested a bridge over or passageway under the railroad tracks for improved safety and a midday shuttle service from the neighborhood to the shopping center.

Mrs. Mack deferred to Ms. Pourciau for comments. Ms. Pourciau stated that there is a plan to provide a safer crossing of the railroad tracks.

4. Ms. Regina Lee addressed the Board regarding MetroAccess. She commended initiatives such as the postcards sent to customers following late pick-ups, door-to-door service, free MetroAccess Rail service, training for operators, and newer vehicles. Ms. Lee requested information regarding the eligibility process for visitors and the availability of recourse for those who have geographically close pick-up and drop-off locations, but extensive travel time.

5. Ms. Cheryl Cort, Executive Director of the Washington Regional Network, added her support to the Rhode Island Avenue joint development project. She thanked WMATA and the District Government for pursuing creative solutions for the development. She commented that the shared parking agreement precedent set with this development should be pursued in more locations, as should locating housing, jobs, and shops above Metro stations in terms of creating a more pedestrian-friendly area. She mentioned her concern that bus passenger waiting areas should be a safe, and pleasant environment.
6. Mr. Jack Corbett, Director of MetroRiders.org, addressed the Board regarding agenda item XIII.A.10, Approval to Initiate and Award a Contract for Organizational Assessment. MetroRiders.org applauds the Board's efforts to identify areas of potential savings to reduce to the greatest extent possible the need for a fare increase to riders in FY08. However, he believes the contractor should also identify increases in staffing or expenditures that appear justified. Mr. Corbett also commented regarding the need for the Inspector General to be hired and involved in this contract.

Mrs. Mack acknowledged the delay in hiring the Inspector General and noted that the process is back on track. Additionally, Mrs. Mack acknowledged the comments regarding the organizational assessment, stating that the Board is looking for reductions as well as efficiencies for the Authority.

7. Mr. James Brown, President of Northern Virginia Disability Advocates (NoVaDA), addressed the Board regarding approval of MetroAccess initiatives. The initiatives that are to be implemented include new vehicles and door-to-door service. Mr. Brown encouraged close monitoring of MetroAccess performance.
8. Ms. Ann Pimley, a member of NoVaDA, encouraged the approval of more initiatives to provide more vehicles for MetroAccess and door-to-door service.
9. Ms. Doris Ray, from the Endependence Center of Northern Virginia, urged the Board to approve the MetroAccess initiatives, which would implement new vehicles for MetroAccess and door-to-door service. Ms. Ray called for the continued monitoring of MetroAccess for on-time service and dialogue with the disability community. Ms. Ray added her concerns regarding the inaccessibility of the SmarTrip[®] card readers on buses.

Mrs. Mack stated that she has requested that focus groups be established to address community issues as major changes are scheduled for implementation.

10. Ms. Gayle Hritnour addressed the Board regarding MetroAccess.

11. Mr. Robert Coward, Executive Director for Direct Action, stated that the Board should approve the MetroAccess items on the Agenda for new vehicles. Mr. Coward suggested a new mechanism for fare collection aboard MetroAccess vehicles. Additionally, he encouraged door-to-door service for safety of passengers, while increasing the compensation of drivers who will have additional responsibilities.

Mrs. Hudgins stated that a number of the speakers today are members of the Access for All Committee at the Transportation Planning Board and thanked them for the time they have taken to address the Board.

Report by Chair:

A. RAC Member Appointments

Mrs. Mack stated that when the RAC was initially established, it was determined that membership be staggered to serve one-, two-, and three-year terms. Additionally there is one at-large member vacancy. Therefore, there are eight vacancies on the Riders' Advisory Council: two from the District of Columbia, three from Montgomery County, one from Prince George's County; one from Fairfax County; and one at-large.

Mrs. Mack recommended the following appointments to the RAC: Kelsi Bracmort and Cesar Maxit from the District of Columbia; Nardra Johnson, Kaiya Sandler and Michael Snyder from Montgomery County; Susan Holland from Prince George's County; Kelly Stone from Fairfax County and Armando Cortinez from the District of Columbia for the at-large seat.

Mrs. Mack moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, that the Board approve the resolution to fill vacant positions on the RAC. This motion was unanimously approved.

A copy of the approved Resolution (2006-66) has been made a part of the official file.

Ayes: 6 - Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

Mrs. Mack further thanked Dennis Jaffe for serving as the Chair of the RAC.

Report by General Manager:

Mr. Requa briefed the Board regarding selected administrative action agenda items:

1) Cameras on buses have become a significant tool for accident investigations and disturbances on buses since 9/11. The number of buses with cameras has since grown to over 600, requiring maintenance contracts to provide quick, reliable information. 2) The labor contract for Local 922 completes the final cycle of negotiations with the unions representing WMATA employees. 3) A contract for streamlining the costs of WMATA administration.

In response to Mr. Graham's questions regarding MetroAccess items, Mr. Requa commented that: 1) there is correspondence from the vendor assuring that the cost of service will be minimal with respect to door-to-door service; and 2) there is a \$255,000 implementation cost for training for the first several months, followed by approximately \$25,000 per year. The \$6.1M from JARC funds is essentially a one-time cost. It is recommended to add three field monitors and three other positions for eligibility as per the Ad Hoc committee recommendations. Costs for fiscal years 2007 and 2008 are included in the JARC funding. Also included is \$125,000 for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) to maintain a paratransit information website funded through FY08, but will be ongoing. Additionally, purchasing bulk fuel at \$6500/year, anticipated to be offset by the savings in fuel costs, is incorporated.

The annual Employee Awards Ceremony was held on Tuesday, December 19, 2006. Board Chair Gladys Mack and Vice Chair Charlie Deegan joined us for this event. The Jackson Graham Memorial Award for Extraordinary Achievement was awarded to Vincent Hill, in the Office of Plant Maintenance. Metro Transit Police Chief Polly Hanson received the Carmen E. Turner Memorial Award for Extraordinary Achievement.

Mr. Zimmerman asked about the time frame for posting the two most recent Town Hall meeting questions and answers. Mr. Requa stated that a complete report would be provided prior to the January Board Meeting.

Mr. Requa deferred to discuss the Regional Bus Conference (RBC). Mr. Thomas stated that there were nine individuals who were instrumental in the success of the RBC that was held on November 30, 2006. Those individuals are: Gary Erenrich, Tia Fossett, Jim Hamre, Eric Hu, Vincent Jackson, Scott Kubly, Glenn Millis, Maria Wallace, and Joel Washington. Mrs. Mack thanked Mr. Thomas for his work on the RBC, as well as Mr. Linton for his leadership.

Report by Budget Committee

Mr. Linton, Committee Vice Chair, provided the Budget Committee report in the absence of Committee Chair, Mr. Graham.

A. Metro Memorial Initiative

Mr. Linton referred the Board to the request to approve a resolution adopting the rules and funding for the Metro Memorial Scholarship Fund for \$100,000 and \$50,000 for the creation of memorials at the Jackson Graham Building and the Carmen E. Turner Training Facility funded with FY06 operating budget surplus funds. The scholarship and memorials are designed to honor WMATA employees who have lost their lives in the line of duty and to assist with the education of their minor children. Staff will look into the construction of one of the memorials at a transfer station and appointing a Board member to the Board of Administrators for the scholarship fund.

Mr. Linton moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan that the Board approve the resolution to adopt the rules and funding for the Metro Memorial Scholarship Fund. This motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Hudgins requested that staff follow-up with the Lee and Waldron families regarding the status of the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Mrs. Mack reiterated that staff should return to the Board prior to constructing a memorial at a transfer station and appointing a Board member to the Board of Administrators for the scholarship fund.

A copy of the approved Resolution (2006-67) has been made a part of the official file.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

B. Approve Office of Information Technology Strategic and Business Plan

Mr. Linton referred the Board to the request to approve to initiate and award contracts and modifications totaling \$11.875 million in funding for expenditures for the Office of Information Technology. The expenditures are needed now, not in future years as previously anticipated.

Mr. Linton moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman that the Board approve to initiate and award contracts and modifications for expenditures for the Office of Information Technology. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

C. Reserve Remainder of Fiscal 2006 Operating Budget Surplus to Operating Reserve

Mr. Linton stated that this item was withdrawn by the committee.

Mr. Linton then mentioned that the General Manager's FY08 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets was presented to the committee as an information item. Staff presented the FY08 proposed Operating Budget containing a \$116 million deficit. Staff proposed a subsidy increase, management actions and a fare increase to balance the budget. The Committee asked staff to review and advise the Board on a number of actions to reduce the budget before recommending any fare increase.

Report by the Customer Service, Operations and Safety Committee

Committee Vice Chair Ms. Pourciau presented the report by the Customer Service, Operations and Safety Committee in the absence of committee Chair, Mr. Briscuso.

A. Art in Transit Performing Arts Program

Ms. Pourciau referred the Board to the request for approval to the resolution to implement the one-year pilot program, *MetroPerforms!*, at designated stations effective Spring 2007. The Board previously directed staff to develop a "music program" for the Metrorail system. Art in Transit, in cooperation with other WMATA departments and area arts councils, will administer the program.

Ms. Pourciau moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, that the Board approve to implement the *MetroPerforms!* pilot program. This motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Zimmerman noted that this resolution is amended from that presented in committee in that it incorporates language for local discretion in the matter of compensation of performers.

A copy of the approved Resolution (2006-68) has been made a part of the official file.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

Report by Planning and Development Committee

A. Approval to Enter into a Multi-part License Agreement with Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Mr. Zimmerman referred the Board to the request for approval to execute a license agreement with VDOT to allow WMATA to install fiber optic cable between Vienna and West Ox Road at I-66. The agreement includes the final link between I-66 and the West Ox Complex, as previously approved by the Board on January 19, 2006.

Mr. Zimmerman moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, that the Board approve to execute a license agreement with VDOT. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

Mr. Zimmerman stated that the committee also discussed the Regional Bus Conference and noted the conference's success.

Report by Policy Legislative/Administration Committee

A. National Capital Region (NCR) Mutual Aid Agreement

Mrs. Mack referred the Board to the request for approval of the resolution to authorize the Acting General Manager to sign the NCR Mutual Aid Agreement. The NCR Mutual Aid Agreement was approved by COG on November 9, 2006. To date, all member jurisdictions and other participating entities have approved the agreement except for WMATA and the Commonwealth of Virginia, and COG has requested that WMATA affirm its support of the agreement. WMATA staff has reviewed the Agreement and concluded that it is beneficial to WMATA and does not pose any legal impediments.

Mrs. Mack moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, approval to authorize the Acting General Manager to sign the National Capital Region Mutual Aid Agreement. This motion was unanimously approved.

A copy of the approved Resolution (2006-69) has been made a part of the official file.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

Report by Real Estate Committee

A. Approval of the Final Compact Public Hearing Staff Report for the Rhode Island Avenue Joint Development Site Project

Mr. Deegan referred the Board to the request for approval of the final Compact public hearing staff report for the Rhode Island Avenue Joint Development Site Project. In March 2005, WMATA executed a Joint Development Agreement with Rhode Island Avenue Metro, LLC for the site at the Rhode Island Avenue Metrorail station. The proposed development included a relocation of some WMATA parking to an on-site garage and a reduction of dedicated WMATA parking from 387 to 215 spaces, as requested by the District of Columbia.

Subsequent to the public hearing, the FTA asked WMATA to enter into a shared parking agreement with the developers in order to ensure that WMATA patrons would have access to at least 387 parking spaces. WMATA and the developer have negotiated a shared parking agreement to meet FTA's requirements.

Approval of the Final Compact Public Hearing Staff Report incorporates an amendment of the Adopted Regional System and the General Plans for the Rhode Island Avenue station to provide for a relocated garage, bus bays, and Kiss & Ride spaces, as depicted in Appendix I to the Staff Report; a reduction in the number of parking spaces from 387 to 229 dedicated to WMATA patrons; the addition of 159 shared spaces, including 6 taxi spaces; and authorization to execute the Rhode Island Avenue Shared Parking Agreement with Rhode Island Avenue Metro, LLC.

Mr. Deegan moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman to approve the final Compact public hearing staff report for the Rhode Island Avenue Joint Development Site Project. This motion was unanimously approved.

A copy of the approved Resolution (2006-70) has been made a part of the official file.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

B. Approval of Arlington Bus Garage Joint Development Sales Agreement

Mr. Deegan referred the Board to the request for approval of the Arlington Bus Garage Sales Agreement. The Board authorized the reinstatement and extension of Ashton Park Associates, LLC, (APA), as the selected developer for the Arlington Bus Garage property on April 21, 2005. On January 19, 2006, the Board authorized staff to execute the term sheet negotiated between WMATA and APA. Those terms have now been incorporated into a Sales and Development Agreement.

Mr. Deegan moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, that the Board approve staff to execute the Arlington Bus Garage Sales and Development Agreement negotiated between WMATA and APA. This motion was unanimously approved.

C. Approval of an Extension of the Negotiation Period for the Silver Spring Master Development Agreement to March 30, 2007

Mr. Deegan referred the Board to the request for approval to extend the negotiation period for the Silver Spring Master Development Agreement. On December 17, 2004, the WMATA Board authorized execution of a Term Sheet with Silver Spring Metro, LLC, an entity owned by the Foulger Pratt Companies and Mid-City Urban, LLC, for the development of the private components of the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit Center/Joint Development Project at the Silver Spring Metrorail station.

The parties to the Master Development Agreement (MDA) have successfully negotiated the business terms of the agreement, and are in the process of completing work on the various related agreements such as the Purchase Contract, Phase Lease, and Project Control Agreement. As these agreements are attachments to the MDA, the MDA is not complete until they have been fully negotiated. The remaining work on the required agreements will be completed approximately by March 30, 2007.

Mr. Deegan moved, seconded by Mr. Linton that the Board approve to extend the negotiation period for the Silver Spring Master Development Agreement to March 30, 2007. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

Administrative Actions

Other Items

Mr. Zimmerman moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, that the Board approve, en bloc, Administrative Items XIII.A numbered 1 through 10. Mrs. Hudgins requested to remove Administrative Item XIII.A.8 from en bloc consideration.

Mr. Zimmerman moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, that the Board approve, en bloc, Administrative Items XIII.A numbered 1 through 7 and 9 through 10. This motion was unanimously approved.

1. Approval to Modify Regional Customer Service Center Contract

Approval to modify contract C05034, Regional Customer Service Center (RCSC) for 1) settlement of identified delay claims and 2) additional RCSC labor.

2. Approval to Modify a Contract for Above-Ground Comprehensive Radio Communication Systems

Approval to issue a contract modification for a Service Agreement to support the above-ground comprehensive radio communications system.

3. Approval to Modify a Contract for Fiber Optic Systems

Approval to modify contract FN4086 with ARINC to enhance the Fiber Optic system (FOS). This enhancement will provide an Internet Protocol (IP) transport network that is vital to the support of Rail, Bus and MTPD maintenance and operations and that is isolated, secure, and resilient. This transport provides fast and reliable communications between OCC and the field devices throughout the Metrorail system. The new equipment will enable us to use the existing fibers and minimize any additional fiber requirement.

4. Approval to Initiate & Award or a Contract for Maintenance of Bus Camera Systems

Approval to initiate and award a competitive contract for a two-year contract with three one-year options for the maintenance of camera systems on buses. Contract costs would include all labor and materials for camera maintenance and repair.

5. Approval to Initiate & Award a Contract for Structural Rehabilitation of Platform Concrete Slabs

Approval to initiate and award a multi-year competitive contract for rehabilitation of structural concrete including seven platform slabs at five stations: Farragut North, Metro Center (Upper and Lower), Gallery Place (Upper and Lower), Judiciary Square, and Union Station.

6. Approval to Initiate & Award a Contract for Parking Garage Rehabilitation

Approval to initiate and award a multi-year competitive contract to perform periodic rehabilitation of five Parking Garage Structures: Prince George's Plaza, Shady Grove - South, Glenmont, Huntington - North, Franconia-Springfield - West.

7. Approval to Initiate & Award a Contract for Fire Standpipe System Replacement

Approval to initiate and award a competitive procurement for the replacement of fire standpipe systems at 35 Metrorail stations on the Red, Blue and Orange lines.

9. Approval of WMATA/Local 922,IBT Memorandum of Understanding

Approval to adopt the resolution approving the Memorandum of Understanding, completing the economic terms for FY07 and FY08, as well as other work rule

modifications for the 2004-2008 Collective Bargaining Agreement between WMATA and Local 922 IBT, and authorize the Acting General Manager to execute a new Collective Bargaining Agreement.

A copy of the approved Resolution (2006-71) has been made a part of the official file.

10. Approval to Initiate & Award a Contract for Organizational Assessment

Approval to initiate and award a sole source contract to Gayland Moffat Consulting for an organizational assessment at a cost not to exceed \$150,000.

A copy of the approved Resolution (2006-74) has been made a part of the official file.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

8. Approval of Community Transportation Initiatives and Funding

Approval to:

1. Modify contract C05108 to extend the use of 75 surplus vehicles through FY07; transition to door-to-door service; implement cashless payment technology; purchase 19 passenger vehicles to improve scheduling efficiency; obtain contractor membership in the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) enabling bulk fuel purchases.
2. Initiate and award a contract for the purchase of up to 65 new MetroAccess vans.
3. Initiate and award a contract for consulting services to revise the MetroAccess certification process and recommend geographic boundaries and operations strategy for zoned MetroAccess services.
4. Initiate and award a competitive procurement for technology enhancements for high-level data extraction, route analysis and planning and cashless fare payment.
5. Increase staff to: one eligibility manager and two agents, one business analyst, three field monitors, and one planner.
6. Establish a website to be an information clearinghouse for regional paratransit information.

Mrs. Hudgins requested a report on the status of the monitoring of MetroAccess performance. Mr. Yaffe stated that staff is currently reviewing a report with the Ad Hoc consultants relative to staffing issues with the contractor. The report is expected to be distributed in early January. Mrs. Hudgins replied that the report should show efficiencies and how those efficiencies were derived.

Mr. Deegan asked for clarification of the "new MetroAccess vans". Mr. Yaffe confirmed that the new vehicles will be new to the Authority, not necessarily current model year.

Mrs. Mack stated that it is important to emphasize the change to door-to-door service. This type of service is important to all customers and should be made well known throughout the modes.

Mr. Kauffman moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, that the Board approve the Community Transportation Initiatives and Funding. This motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Kauffman stated that growth and ridership experienced with MetroAccess gives the Authority the opportunity to provide quality service, recognizing the needs and demands of customers. He mentioned that Messrs. Yaffe and Jaffe convened the first joint meeting of the Elderly and Disabled Committee and the Riders' Advisory Council in early December 2006, beginning the process of providing formal direct access for riders with disabilities to the Board, unfiltered through the General Manager.

Ms. Pourciau requested reiteration of the answers to the questions asked by Mr. Graham during the Report by the RAC. Mr. Requa replied that in response to the first question, the Authority has assurances from the contractor that the estimates are correct, stated in correspondence. There is an approximate \$255,000 initial cost for training, customer information, etc. After the initial year, less than \$25,000 per year is anticipated to be necessary for the door-to-door service. The next question regarding obligations for long-term expenses almost everything is done in the first year, such as are responses to Ad Hoc committees and the adding of six additional staff members funded through FY08. Other actions requiring expenditures are expected to be offset with savings, specifically with respect to fuel purchases. There are minimal long-term costs. While ridership increases and contractual increases may rise, the actions taken will make MetroAccess more efficient and more compatible with the demands of the customer. Ms. Pourciau reiterated the excitement that the cost impacts will be minimal, but services should be greatly improved.

Mr. Linton stated that there is a new pilot program for Medicaid transportation services. The pilot program will allow Medicaid recipients to access fixed-route service through local funding mechanisms. This program has been tried around the country with a tremendous amount of savings to local jurisdictions, because high-

cost transportation services are being spent by Medicare funds. This program will save money for Medicaid and provide increased usage on fixed-route system as well. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has funding for such programs.

A copy of the approved Resolutions (2006-72 and 2006-73) has been made a part of the official file.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

REPORT BY WSTC: There was no report.

REPORT BY NVTC: There was no report.

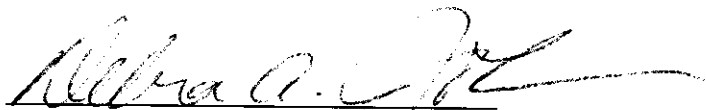
REPORT BY D.C.: There was no report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Mack moved, seconded by Mr. Deegan, that the Board meet in Executive Session immediately following the meeting to discuss labor issues. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Mrs. Mack, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Pourciau, Mr. Linton, and Mr. Kauffman

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.


Debra A. Johnson, Board Secretary