

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE
METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY

NOVEMBER 7, 1967

The Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority held its regular meeting on November 7, 1967, at 3:30 P.M., in the Glenn Building Conference Room, Atlanta. Mr. Richard H. Rich, Chairman, presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert F. Adamson (City of Atlanta)
Sanford Atwood (DeKalb County)
M. C. Bishop (Fulton County)
Roy A. Blount (DeKalb County)
Rawson Haverty (City of Atlanta)
L. D. Milton (City of Atlanta)
Richard H. Rich (City of Atlanta)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Edgar Blalock (Clayton County)
K. A. McMillon (Gwinnett County)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority

H. L. Stuart, General Manager
King Elliott, Public Information Director
Earl Nelson, Chief Engineer
H. N. Johnson, Secretary to General Manager

Consultants

Walter Douglas, Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas,
New York
J. A. Coil, Resident Manager, Parsons, Brinckerhoff-Tudor
Bechtel, Atlanta
Leon Eplan, Eric Hill Associates, Atlanta
W. Stell Huie, Huie & Harland, Atlanta
George Goodwin, Bell & Stanton, Atlanta
Bill Bates, Bell & Stanton, Atlanta

Financial Advisors and Bond Counsel

Lloyd Hatcher, White, Weld & Company, New York
Dan O'Conner, King & Spalding, Atlanta
John Mobley, Gambrell & Mobley, Atlanta

Others

T. M. Callaway, DeKalb County Commissioner
Aubrey Couch, Decatur-DeKalb Development Association
Don Ingram, Central Atlanta Progress, Inc.
Margaret Hurst, Atlanta Constitution
Mrs. Rachel Champagne, J. D. Wingfield, Jr., Jerry Coursey,
Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning Commission

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Adamson, the minutes of the October meeting were unanimously approved.

Financial Report

The General Manager presented the financial report as of October 30, 1967, which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. He reported receipt of funds from Gwinnett County during the month, making it current in its appropriations to the Authority. Mr. Stuart said expenditures for the year would be less than anticipated, and a surplus of \$105,238 was projected. There were no questions, and Mr. Bishop made a motion that the financial report be approved. Dr. Atwood seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Report of General Manager

Mr. Stuart said over sixty meetings had been held with various agencies in the area concerned with transportation and planning, as the 702 work of the engineers had begun to reflect preliminary drawings in more detail. Mr. Nelson, Chief Engineer, presented a map showing expressways existing, under construction, and proposed. He said the MARTA engineers were working with State Highway Department engineers on all future improvements planned for the expressway system, in an effort to coordinate all transportation planning.

Mr. Rich suggested the possibility of a spur line off Lenox Road in the center of the freeway to Sandy Springs be considered as part of the long-range plan. He felt it would be a logical and relatively inexpensive way to accommodate the projected explosive growth in Sandy Springs.

Mr. Callaway of the DeKalb County Commission inquired about the possibility of having a station in Court Square in Decatur instead of along the railroad near Agnes Scott College. He said officials of Agnes Scott would like to have it as far from the College as possible, and officials of Decatur and DeKalb County would like to have it as near the center of Decatur as possible.

Mr. Callaway mentioned urban renewal land available in the heart of Decatur, and asked that this be considered at an early date. Mr. Aubrey Couch, representing the Decatur-DeKalb Development Association, also endorsed the exploration of the use of Decatur's urban renewal land for a transit station, parking, etc.

In connection with Mr. Callaway's request, Mr. Blount asked if it would be feasible to send an engineer to Decatur to talk about the requests for changes. Mr. Coil said this would be done, and Mr. Callaway requested that DeKalb County officials be included in such a meeting.

Mr. Rich said the site along the railroad had been proposed as the most economical, but the plans were tentative, and public hearings would be held in all jurisdictions, and all suggestions considered before the Authority adopted a final plan.

The General Manager said meetings with all of the railroads would be completed within one week. Preliminary engineering plans had been left with the engineers of the railroads for study. It was the consensus of the Board that the time was approaching when the Board should begin to seriously negotiate with the policymaking heads of the railroads. In response to a question, Mr. Walter Douglas replied that as soon as the railroad engineers had time to absorb the plans, it would be well to seek agreement on operational and political feasibility, leaving the question of money estimates until there had been a favorable bond issue and money was available with which to negotiate.

Mr. Haverty made a motion that the 701 report be sent to the heads of the railroads at the appropriate time, with a personal letter from the Chairman of the Authority. The motion was unanimously passed.

Reports by Consultants

Parsons, Brinckerhoff-Tudor, Bechtel

Mr. John Coil said the 701 report had been printed and was being bound. The popular report, which was to be a condensed version of the 701 report, would be in draft form for review within a week by ARMPC and MARTA, and would be printed within about three weeks.

He said studies of refinement were continuing, and the engineers continued to make evaluations as to use of construction, patronage, etc., and to consider alternate solutions or revisions in the recommendations.

Eric Hill Associates

Mr. Leon Eplan said the comments of his firm on three of the lines had been given to the engineers, the Planning Commission, and the Authority. Work on the other line would be completed soon, and the writing of the final report had begun. It was hoped their final report would be available by the end of the year.

Report of ARMPC Planning Director

Mr. J. D. Wingfield, Jr., ARMPC Planning Director, reviewed the proposed amendment to the Section 9 application, approved by the MARTA Board at its October 3rd meeting. He said the amendment request had been filed with the Department of Housing and Urban Development as of October 3, 1967. This extension would involve the use of Alan M. Voorhees Associates to give an objective appraisal of transit planning to date. The study was expected to cost \$10,000 in local money, and to take approximately three months. This study, hopefully, would satisfy the interests of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Bureau of Public Roads in their efforts to coordinate various public investments in transportation, as well as their concern for the broader impact of transit on the region.

Mr. Rich mentioned the possibility of additional studies in the future, to examine coordination with the existing bus system.

Report of Legal Counsel

Mr. Stell Huie of Huie and Harland, Counsel for the Authority, introduced Mr. Lloyd Hatcher of White, Weld & Company,

financial advisors of New York, and Mr. Dan O'Conner of King and Spalding, and Mr. John Mobley of Gambrell and Mobley, both bond counsel firms of Atlanta. Mr. Huie said several meetings had been held to develop a financial plan which would be practical, with bonds at the lowest possible interest.

After discussing various ways of financing, it was recommended that a committee be appointed to work with the financial advisors, bond counsel, and Hammer, Greene, Siler Associates, to develop current recommendations which could be used in support of a bond issue.

The Chairman appointed Mr. Adamson, Dr. Atwood, and Mr. Huie as a committee to work with financial advisors, bond counsel and Hammer, Greene, Siler Associates, to refine and review such variables as interest rates and inflation factors, in an effort to be certain a realistic millage rate would be used in presenting a bond issue to the public.

The Chairman also appointed Mr. Haverty as Chairman, together with Mr. Blount and Mr. Bishop, as a committee to work in the area of public information under the direction of Mr. George Goodwin of Bell and Stanton, to develop the best way to present the plan to the public for referendum.

Upon motion by Mr. Blount, seconded by Dr. Atwood, the Board unanimously concurred in the appointment of these two committees by the Chairman.

Mr. Huie reviewed 17 proposed amendments to the MARTA legislation, which counsel considered important, and suggested that new legislation incorporating these amendments be submitted to the Legislature in the January session. The suggested changes are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Dr. Atwood made a motion that Counsel be given authority to draft legislation incorporating the proposed amendments and submit it to local governments and legislative representatives of local governments for study. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Next Meeting

December 5, 1967.