

METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 25, 1970

ATTENDANCE

Eldon Hout, Chairman
David Eccles
Harold Ruecker
Lloyd Anderson
Frank Schumaker
Robert Schumacher
Sid Bartels
Homer C. Chandler, Director

There being a quorum present, the Committee considered the following items:

I. Report on Mass Transit Operations in the Portland Area:

Chairman Hout stated that the purpose of the meeting was to receive an informational report from those interested in the development of a mass transit program in the metropolitan area. He stated that testimony would be received from representatives of the Tri-County Metropolitan Transit District and from a citizens' committee known as "Committee for Metropolitan Cooperation." Mr. Hout then called on Mr. William Roberts, Chairman of the Tri-County Metropolitan Transit District.

Mr. William Roberts: Mr. Roberts read a report in which he set forth the present status of the Tri-Met operations. He reviewed for the Board the legal status of Tri-Met's operations in relationship to the take-over of private transit systems and the purchase price of those systems. He also reviewed the status of the lawsuit that has been filed in order to get a ruling on Tri-Met's responsibility for the employees' pension fund. Mr. Roberts also discussed the financial matters of the Tri-Met operations and then stated that Tri-Met's objectives are:

- (1) To acquire and consolidate private and public transportation in the Portland area.
- (2) To replace obsolete buses.
- (3) To obtain, through CRAG, a mass transit plan setting forth both a shortrange goal and a long-range plan providing funding for the continuation of mass transit operations.
- (4) To maintain transit service in the Portland area.

(Mr. Robert's report is attached.)

In answer to questions concerning the possible take-over of the Tri-Met operations by the Metropolitan Service District, Mr. Roberts suggested the following:

- (1) That no action to absorb Tri-Met in the Metropolitan Service District's operations should be made until the three legal matters are resolved.
- (2) That no assumption of the Tri-Met operations should be considered until after the next session of the State Legislature because it was, in his opinion, possible that some questions surrounding these operations today will be resolved.
- (3) That no take-over should be considered until a competent staff has been installed in the Tri-Met operations.

It was Mr. Robert's conclusion that the area would be best served if the Metropolitan Service District devoted their time to sewage, storm drainage, and solid waste disposal and leave the matter of mass transportation to the Tri-Met Board at the present time.

Chairman Hout introduced Mr. Ed Glenn, Chairman of the Committee For Metropolitan Cooperation.

Mr. Ed Glenn. Mr. Glenn stated that he represented a committee composed of about six hundred business establishments in the area, and that they had made an exhaustive study of the need of a mass transit system and of Tri-Met's proposed development. As a result of their study, Mr. Glenn stated that the Committee For Metropolitan Cooperation has taken the following position:

- (1) Committee For Metropolitan Cooperation recognizes the need of mass transit in the Portland area, but mass

transportation operations must have restrictions placed on their financial powers, and that those restrictions should be comparable with those imposed on other jurisdictions.

- (2) That there must be developed a balance in the resources available for all services and that it is their opinion that the Metropolitan Service District is the only agency that can bring about this balance.
- (3) That the Metropolitan Service District should move forward in assuming the responsibilities of mass transit in the three-county area.
- (4) That the Metropolitan District Board should appoint an advisory committee and charge them with the responsibility of advising the Metropolitan Service District Board during the time that the mass transit plan is being put together.

(See attached report given by Mr. Glenn.)

Following Mr. Glenn's report, members of the District Board discussed the advisability of taking over the operations of Tri-Met; and if the take-over is to be done, what would be the appropriate time to do so.

Inasmuch as the decision that may be made on the question of the Metropolitan District taking over Tri-Met might become involved in legal matters, the Committee adjourned into an Executive Session for the purpose of studying what course of action is available to the Board. Following the Executive Session, the Board instructed Mr. Chandler to develop a motion that would capture the intent of the Board and to have this ready at a specially called meeting of the Board scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Friday, October 2, 1970.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. on October 2.