

AGENDA

CONNECTICUT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
MEETING

Thursday, June 3, 2004 - 1:30 PM

Union Station, Fourth Floor Conference Room A

New Haven, Connecticut

1. Approval of the May 4, 2004 meeting minutes
2. Featured speaker: Michael J. Riley, President, Motor Transport Association of Connecticut, Inc. (MTAC)
3. Comments from the public
4. Report from operating entities
5. Chairman's report
6. Old business
7. New business

CPTC Liaison – Cynthia Gollareny (860) 594-2832
cynthia.gollareny@po.state.ct.us

CONNECTICUT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MEETING ATTENDANCE

THURSDAY, May 4, 2004

D.O.T. Headquarters, Conference Room B

Newington, Connecticut

VOTING MEMBERS

Linda Blair
E. Arroll Borden
Richard Carpenter
Tom Cheeseman
Morton Katz
Yvonne Loteczka
David Reed
Russell St. John
Richard Sunderhauf

GUESTS

David Chase
Viviana Espinosa
Stephen Gazillo
Tom Janaky
Mario Marrero
Anthony Savino
Stephen Troster

CDOT STAFF

Harry Harris
Peter Richter
Carmine Trotta
Cindy Gollareny

CONNECTICUT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Minutes

May 4, 2004

(Meeting convened at 1:34 p.m.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 1, 2004

Accepted as written.

FEATURED SPEAKERS – KEY POINTS

TOM JANAKY, Vice President of Sales, Colorado Railcar, provided a synopsis of the Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU), a self-propelled commuter railcar with the capacity to pull coaches. Colorado Railcar is the country's only passenger railcar manufacturer that is owned and operated by a U.S. company

The DMU is Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) structurally compliant and has successfully completed its testing at the Transportation Technology Center (TTC) in Pueblo, Colorado. The top speed was 110 mph, which exceeded the design speed and also exceeded fuel efficiency expectations dramatically by achieving two miles per gallon. The DMU made its debut at the 2002 APTA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, then embarked on a nationwide tour, receiving praise from transit officials and consultants.

The DMU consists of twin 600 horsepower engines, has the ability to pull two bi-level cars, and can run in mixed freight service. Additionally, the DMU is safe, quiet and environmentally friendly. The single level DMU has a seating capacity of 90 passengers and the new double deck DMU has a seating capacity of 188 passengers.

Colorado Railcar's clientele include: Royal Caribbean and Celebrity Cruise Lines; Princess Cruises and Tours; Holland America Cruises; Rocky Mountaineer Railtours; and Alaska Railroad.

For further information on the DMU, visit www.ColoradoRailcar.com or contact Tom Janaky at sales@coloradorailcar.com or via telephone at (303) 670-1585 x302.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

REPORT FROM OPERATING ENTITIES

Harry Harris reported that the public hearings for fare increases on MetroNorth and Shore Line East are complete. The report is currently being prepared for the Commissioner and will then be forwarded to MTA.

Mr. Harris also reported that a meeting has taken place with the Department of Homeland Security in CT, and a meeting will also be held with MetroNorth, to develop a plan to bolster the security at the rail yards in New Haven, Bridgeport and Stamford.

Mr. Harris announced that the plan requested by the Governor and Speaker Lyons pertaining to the fleet replacement has been submitted to the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and is currently under evaluation. The Department is aggressively pursuing this plan to acquire the next generation of commuter rail equipment.

Mr. Harris reported that the FY05 budget adopted by the legislature is essentially the budget recommended by the Governor with a few exceptions. There is more money for ADA and there is an increase of \$3.2 million in the rail budget. This will allow the deferment of the fare increase for six months. It also establishes \$200,000 to restore the Waterbury Branch midday service that was eliminated.

Richard Sunderhauf reported that CTTransit Hartford/New Haven/Stamford divisions are still in the process of negotiating a new union contract. They are currently working under the provisions of the recently expired contract.

Mr. Sunderhauf distributed information pertaining to some service adjustments to the local bus service as well as the express buses. All express buses arriving from points north, east, west and south of Hartford will either continue to the Asylum Hill Loop or the Capitol Loop.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Cheeseman stated how difficult it has been for transit the past two years and is hopeful the Governor will not veto the FY05 budget since it will assist in overcoming some of the problems transit has been experiencing.

Mr. Cheeseman again commended the Department for its rapid response and reconstruction of the I-95 bridge destroyed by the fire in Bridgeport.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Richard Carpenter reported that the Environmental Defense Fund and the East of Hudson Rail Freight Operations Task Force have just released a new report titled *Investing in Mobility: Freight Transport in the Hudson Region*. The report can be found on the following website: www.edf.org/documents/3601_InvestingMobility_Hudson.pdf
For a hard copy call (212) 505-2100.

Morton Katz commented on a recent Amtrak trip from Hartford to Virginia in business class. Mr. Katz was very pleased with the cleanliness, comfort and friendliness of the Amtrak staff. Mr. Katz also commented that due to the increasing price of gasoline, a marketing campaign should be developed to encourage people to use public transportation.

Congratulations to Richard Schreiner and his wife on the recent birth of their daughter.

(Meeting adjourned at 2:25 P.M.)