



**City Of San Diego
COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD
DISTRICT SEVEN**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: June 29, 2011 **Reference:** M-11-06-05

TO: Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee Members

FROM: Chairwoman Marti Emerald 

SUBJECT: San Diego Metropolitan Transit System Taxicab Committee

At the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Board of Directors meeting on June 23, 2011, I asked that the member composition of the MTS Taxicab Committee be reviewed to be more inclusionary of industry stakeholders. Specifically, limiting the seventeen member board to only one driver representative, appointed by the Committee, does not equate to fair and reasonable representation. Several of my Colleagues on the MTS board agreed with me. As such, I agreed to host a discussion on the topic at the June 29, 2011 Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee meeting. In addition, I have outlined a proposal to help guide our discussion.

The current Committee Member make-up consists of:

1. Eight taxicab owners each serving a three-year term, divided as follows:
 - a. Three seats are designated for representation of owners of one to three taxicabs
 - b. Five seats are designated for representation of owners of four or more taxicabs
2. One taxicab driver serving a three-year term (appointed by the other committee members)
3. One member appointed by each of the following organizations for a three-year term:
 - a. The San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau
 - b. The San Diego Chamber of Commerce
 - c. The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority

- d. The San Diego Convention Center
 - e. The San Diego Travelers Aid Society
 - f. Two members from the Hotel Industry
4. One representative of the MTS Board of Directors appointed on an annual basis, designated by the MTS Board of Directors to serve as Chairman of the Taxicab Committee.

The current Committee composition is heavily weighted to taxicab owners. Because taxicab drivers are also impacted by the actions of the taxicab committee, I propose the following structure:

1. Five taxicab owners each serving a three-year term, divided as follows:
 - a. Two seats designated for representation of owners of one to three taxicabs
 - b. Three seats are designated for representation of owners of four or more taxicabs
2. Five taxicab drivers serving a three-year term, divided as follows:
 - a. Five seats designated for lease holder drivers
3. One member appointed by each of the following organizations for a three-year term:
 - a. The San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau
 - b. The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority
 - c. The San Diego Convention Center
 - d. The San Diego Travelers Aid Society
 - e. Two members from the Hotel Industry
4. One representative of the MTS Board of Directors appointed on an annual basis, designated by the MTS Board of Directors to serve as Chairman of the Taxicab Committee.

In addition, the current Committee turnover occurs every three years with all seats up for election at once. I urge the Committee to support a new structure with taxicab drivers being phased in and Committee elections occurring annually. As the current Committee has been elected to serve through 2013, I recommend the addition of one driver in 2011, 2012 and 2013 through the election process until reaching the final composition in 2014. Please refer to the following table:

Phase-in Schedule				
	2011	2012	2013	2014
Committee Chair	x	x	x	x
San Diego Chamber of Commerce				
San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau	x	x	x	x
San Diego County Regional Airport Authority	x	x	x	x
San Diego Convention Center	x	x	x	x
San Diego Travelers Aid Society	x	x	x	x
Hotel Industry Member 1	x	x	x	x
Hotel Industry Member 2	x	x	x	x
Owner 1	x	x	x	x
Owner 2	x	x	x	x
Owner 3	x	x	x	x
Owner 4	x	x	x	x
Owner 5	x	x	x	x
Owner 6	x	x	x	
Owner 7	x	x	x	
Owner 8	x	x	x	
Driver 1	x	x	x	x
Driver 2	x	x	x	x
Driver 3		x	x	x
Driver 4			x	x
Driver 5				x
Total Committee Members	17	18	19	17

Each member will be elected to a 3 year term. Under this proposal, at least one driver and one owner position will be up for election every year. In some years there will be two. To accommodate the transition, in 2014, four owner seats will be up for election. I propose the two candidates receiving the most votes be given a three year term, the candidate receiving the third most votes be given a two year term and the candidate receiving the fourth most votes be given a one year term.

ME:de

cc: Honorable Mayor Jerry Sanders
 Honorable City Councilmembers
 Office of the Independent Budget Analyst
 Office of the City Attorney