

MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM  
PUBLIC SECURITY COMMITTEE  
1255 Imperial Avenue, Suite 1000  
San Diego, CA 92101

April 18, 2016

1. ROLL CALL

Mr. Cunningham called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. All members were present; a roll call sheet listing Public Security Committee members' attendance is attached.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Minto moved to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2015 Public Security Committee meeting. Ms. Rios seconded the motion and the vote was 6 to 0 to approve.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr. Minto moved to appoint Mr. Cunningham to be re-elected as the chairman of this committee. Ms. Zapf seconded the motion; the vote was 6 to 0 to approve.

5. NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

Mr. Cunningham extended a warm welcome to Mr. Gastil as he is a new member of this committee. He recommended Mr. Guaderrama to set up a tour for him and the committee members (probably in the next couple of months) so they can familiarize and see the tools and technology upgrades that are now available in the MTS Security Department for the entire MTS System. Mr. Cunningham mentioned that MTS bus and camera system is certainly the best camera system in the region. He expressed that committee members will enjoy the tour as much as he did last year.

Mr. Jablonski brought up an incident involving suspicious items that happened last week in the Blue Line area. As result of the investigations performed, they discovered the liquid of the unmarked / suspicious bottles that were left unattended were not hazardous. He expressed that this incident was quite a training exercise since trolley service was interrupted for approximately six hours (bus bridge service was implemented and several public agencies were involved in the response).

Mr. Guaderrama reiterated that it was indeed a good training exercise and it was well coordinated; all officials, MTS K-9 units and other MTS personnel who responded to the scene.

6. MTS YEAR-END SECURITY REPORT (January through December 2015)

Mr. Guaderrama introduced his management team, Mr. Musgrove (Deputy Director), Mr. Barletta (Manager of Operations) along with Ms. Baeza (Records Clerk).

Mr. Guaderrama presented the MTS Year-End Security Report; it included the Trolley and Bus Crime Statistics (January through December 2015), as well as the changes and improvements in Security Enforcement Operations.

Following are some of the relevant topics that were discussed while the presentation was being reviewed:

- ARJIS (Automated Regional Justice Information System) – Statistical data for this presentation was obtained through ARJIS. This is a change from how statistical data was gathered in the past. Part I statistics were thoroughly reviewed to make sure crimes listed in ARJIS are indeed Trolley related. All regional agencies report crimes to ARJIS; this is the most accurate and effective method for obtaining crime statistics in the region.
- New hire announcement - Rachelle Dziubczynski as the new Records Manager.
- MTS now has access to SDPDs Crime Reporting Management System (CRMS).
- A series of videos were displayed concerning different battery and assault cases (e.g. onboard bus/trolleys with patrons/TSS officers/Bus Operator) – Mr. Guaderrama explained in detail each case.
- Use of Force tracking system was created late in 2014 (22% reduction from 2014 to 2015).
- Officer training and compliance with MTS rules (current and future plans).
- Officer confrontations and de-escalation.
- JATF Grant funding - MTS continues to apply for grant funds since the task force has had a positive impact in improving safety on the MTS system.
- Increased Fare Inspections (12%) and Enforcement (13%) from 2014 to 2015.
- JATF Enforcement Statistics.
- New Security Contract highlights (effective July 1, 2016).
- Transient Encampment Details (discussions regarding various locations – e.g. Downtown, Fashion Valley and Mission Gorge areas).
- Passenger Suspension Program (per Mr. Guaderrama – this issue is in progress as researches are still being conducted).
- Terrorist Awareness – Officers (including K-9 Units) are constantly reminded to be vigilant and alert for any possible suspicious/terrorist activity and report it appropriately.

The presentation was well received by the committee members.

7. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Ms. Landers, MTS General Counsel, provided an overview/update to the committee members regarding her community outreach efforts. Topics during community meetings included homeless issues, spice (synthetic drug) overdose cases and strategies to address these issues.

Ms. Landers discussed meetings she attended with the San Diego Police Department, San Diego Fire Department and several other public/private downtown community organizations to discuss quality of life issues impacting public transportation and the surrounding communities. She also reached out to the City Attorney's office and the District Attorney's office to discuss handling of future crime cases affecting public transportation. As a result of the meetings, the City Attorney assigned a neighborhood prosecutor to MTS.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS


Mr. Gastil expressed his contentment for being part of this committee.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting is to be determined based on the members' availability.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:55 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

  
Chairman – Mr. Jim Cunningham

Attachment: A. Roll Call Sheet