



# NEWS

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## MTA CEO APPOINTS THOMAS K. CONNER AS NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR OPERATIONS

Thomas K. Conner, a 30 year veteran of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) has been appointed MTA's new Executive Officer for Operations effective April 26, 1999.

"We are thrilled to have a person of the caliber of Tom Conner join the MTA executive staff and head up our operations unit," said MTA CEO Julian Burke. "He brings with him more than 30 years of transportation experience that will greatly enhance MTA's transit operations."

As executive officer for Operations, Conner will oversee all aspects of MTA's bus and rail operations which includes MTA's Metro Bus fleet and the Metro Red, Blue and Green lines responsible for carrying 1.2 million boarding passengers each weekday.

Conner presently is serving as interim City Engineer for the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering. He was appointed to that position in July 1998. Prior to that appointment, he served as the general manager of LADOT and had overall responsibility for the operations, budgets and programs of the city's transportation department with a staff of 1,450 employees.

"The transportation services and programs that MTA provides are essential to the daily lives of the people in Southern California," said Conner. "I'm looking forward to being a part of this important organization."

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He has held several mid-management and management level positions within the LADOT including three years (1994-97) as Assistant General Manager of the Office of Transportation Operations, four years (1988-92) as Assistant General Manager of the Office of Transportation Programs, and served for 10 months in 1993 as LADOT interim general manager.

Conner is a registered Civil Engineer and Traffic Engineer in California. He received his bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois in 1966. He also has taken various courses in a masters program in transportation from the University of Illinois and Cal State Long Beach.

His career highlights include responsibility for the development and implementation of the city's highly successful transportation plan for the 1984 Summer Olympic Games. He was involved in the start-up of the LADOT's DASH and Commuter Express transit program and served as the LADOT's incident commander for the department's response to the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

In addition, Conner was responsible for the ongoing expansion and operation of the LADOT's state-of-the-art computerized traffic management center and Smart Corridor project.

He replaces James Reichert who has served as MTA's interim Executive Officer for Operations for the past ten months.

Conner and his wife Carol reside in Simi Valley. He has two sons, ages 18 and 24. He has been a transit user for many years and presently uses a combination of public transit alternatives for his commute to and from work that include Metrolink, DASH, the Metro Red Line subway and MTA Metro Bus service.

In his spare time he enjoys golf, traveling, and restoring old cars.

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