

MTA Chief Executive Officer Franklin E. White's

# CEO BRIEF

A weekly report  
from the office  
of the CEO

April 4, 1994



We've scheduled two meetings to discuss our proposed layoff policy. The first one has been set for Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the SCAG conference room on the 12th floor of the 818 Building and the second one will follow at the 425 Building at 3 p.m. in the Board Room. Employees need only attend one meeting. Deputy CEO Kim Kimball will conduct the meeting. Please come with your questions.

**H**y Frankel, our merger expert, was back in Los Angeles last week. He's here to oversee the layoff process and to see that it is done fairly. After the meetings we have with employees to explain the policy, the Board will consider its formal adoption. Thereafter, the executive officers will draw up a plan that identifies what positions are to be reduced. I anticipate the reductions will occur before June 1.

As you know, our first priority has been the reduction of the \$126 million operating budget shortfall. By the end of FY 1994, the MTA will have eliminated 515 positions, which is approximately 20 percent of the agency's administrative staff — without touching our ranks of bus and rail operators. These cuts are expected to save \$55.5 million.

At the same time, I know too well that many of the decisions made to achieve this goal have been painful, and affect the lives of many employees and their families.

#### **Transit Police Recommendation**

Speaking of the budget deficit, late last week I recommended to the Safety Ad-Hoc Committee that our Transit Police — rather

than the LAPD and the Sheriff's Department — patrol the buses, Red and Blue lines, and all future transit systems.

I believe the Transit Police provide a professional service that will be 19 percent less expensive — at a time when the agency is facing a \$126 million deficit and will likely have to raise fares and reduce service.

At last Thursday's meeting, the Safety Ad-Hoc Committee voted 5 to 0 to study costs for communications equipment needed by the Transit Police to adequately do its job. I'm in the process of hiring a consultant and he/she will report back to me within the month.

You will recall that in December all of the police agencies were asked to submit estimates for patrolling the transit systems based on 1998 costs. The joint LAPD/Sheriff's bid was for \$110.7 million for 1,199 officers, while the MTA police bid \$86.7 million for 1,185 officers.

The bids were analyzed by an independent auditing company that adjusted the figures for the LAPD/sheriff's bid to \$107.2 million and the MTA police bid to \$86.9 million -- roughly 19%

We asked officers to appoint people who were respected by their colleagues, had creative ideas, and could work well in a group.

lower. The issue under review is the extent to which communication costs are accurately reflected and how much that could change the bottom line.

### CEO Advisory Group Announced

As we continue to shape the organization and redefine our goals, I'm pleased to announce the introduction of a second program to improve communications between management and staff. Recently, I asked the executive officers to recommend members of their staff to serve on a CEO Advisory Group. We asked officers to appoint people who were respected by their colleagues, had creative ideas, and could work well in a group. The following employees, who come from throughout the organization, were selected:

OSCAR QUIROGA .....	OPERATIONS
CALLIER BEARD .....	OPERATIONS
MIKE BREWER.....	OPERATIONS
RANDAL IKEDA .....	OPERATIONS
JOHN ROBERTS.....	OPERATIONS
TONY SANDOVAL.....	OPERATIONS
JESS DIAZ.....	OPERATIONS
DOUG ANDERSON .....	OPERATIONS
ANDERSON BENNETT .....	RCC
BARBARA GATEWOOD .....	RCC
DOROTHY SPERRY .....	RCC
BONNIE VERDIN .....	RCC
ROGER WHITE.....	RCC
MARIO PEREZ.....	CAO
SHERI BARBERIC.....	CAO
MIKE SMITH.....	CAO
LORRAINE MELENDEZ .....	CAO
CYNTHIA PANSING .....	PLANNING
COSETTE POLENA.....	PLANNING
ROBERT FEJERANG .....	PLANNING
BILL LEWIS.....	PLANNING
SUMIRE GANT.....	EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
AVA JORDAN .....	RCC
TRISHA MURAKAWA .....	EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MARIA PEREZ .....	EEO
DA McCLAIN .....	EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The first meeting of the CEO Advisory Group is scheduled for Friday, April 8 at 2 p.m. in the 818 Building. I'm hoping the group can meet monthly with me. Their ideas will be shared with you in subsequent issues of this report.

### Human Resources Brown Bag

In other matters, I've scheduled my next "brown bag" with the Human Resources Department for April 21. I'll let you know by memo the location of the meeting.

### First Anniversary

Finally, as we pass our first anniversary, I want to extend my deep appreciation to each of you who have given it your all to plan, build and operate a superior transportation system.

Over the year we've achieved much. We kept Los Angeles moving in the aftermath of the earthquake. We resolved the controversy over two headquarters. With respect to the budget, we took several major steps to reduce the deficit. We slashed in half the number of outside contractors used for services, turning instead to our own staff, saving millions in the process. We reduced duplication in the agency, combining departments and reducing the number of staff needed to perform specific tasks. In the coming months, I'll be proposing more ways to save taxpayer dollars.

Also, we broke ground on Segment 3 of the Red Line, and will do the same for the Pasadena line next week. My congratulations to each of the men and women who have made it work!

- Franklin White

**For the record - In last week's (March 28) issue, reference page 1, paragraph 2: Employees with 3-4 years of service will receive 3 months of severance pay or 2 years retirement credit.**

I welcome your comments and questions in response to **CEO Report**, which is designed to provide employees with direct communication with my office. Please contact either of my Special Assistants, Michael Gonzalez at 244-7476, or Phyllis Tucker at 244-6191. Also, employees can fax comments to 244-6014.

### A publication of the MTA CEO's Office

**Editor:** Andrea Greene  
**Art Director:** Anne Roubideaux  
**Designer:** Terry McMahon  
**Deputy Dir., Media Relations:** Jim Smart  
**Special Assistant to CEO:** Phyllis Tucker  
**Manager, Printing Services:** Al Moore