

REPORT

A weekly report
from the office
of the CEO

October 31, 1994



We're new, we're different, we're moving forward — that is the message I've sent to the Federal Transit Administration in Washington about our remodeled rail construction program.

Following last week's Board meeting, we advised Administrator Gordon Linton that the Board voted 12-0 in strong support of our plans for resuming construction along Hollywood Boulevard and to implement a quality comprehensive construction management plan. In addition, on a motion by Mayor Riordan, the Board adopted a resolution that the MTA is ready to take the necessary actions to ensure the Red Line continues to move forward in a safe and efficient manner.

New Rail Construction Committee

Effective Nov. 1, the Rail Construction Corporation is replaced by a committee composed of five members of the MTA Board who will have full voting rights, three members who will not have voting rights, but will be required to have construction experience, as well as the CEO, who will serve as an ex-officio member.

On Friday, the executive management committee (EMC) reviewed and authorized the release of a request for qualifications document for a construction oversight consultant to work with me and Jerry Baxter to develop a process and control system for capital construction, contract

procurement, quality assurance and safety, including recommendations on how the Board can be more effective in its oversight role. We set a deadline date of midweek for interested firms to apply. And, the Board has made it clear that it wants our recommendations in January.

One Organization

I'm pleased that we will all be one MTA team, and that my goal for one seamless organization has become reality. I ask that staff not answer the phone with "RCC" and to refrain from using stationery with the RCC logo on it. I understand all too well that a new identity takes some time to cultivate!

We plan to publicize vigorously our new operation — the media relations team is developing a plan that zeroes in on quality control and safety, two of the responsibilities we're now directly charged with. With construction quality control and safety people now reporting to us directly instead of to a construction management firm, the public can be assured that the owner, MTA, will be better informed about contractor adherence to standards.

I'm excited that our superb construction staff is on the MTA team, and that my goal for one seamless organization has become reality.

Reception for Judith Pierce

I was delighted to see so many of you at Judith Pierce's welcoming reception last week. Our new chief administrative officer is already making things happen. She has hired a director of strategic planning, whom I'll tell you more about in my newsletter next week. Judith intends to have the classification/compensation package finalized quickly.

Classification/Compensation Update

Under Judith's leadership, Administrative Services has scheduled a total of five employee sessions on the classification/compensation program, which we hope will be reviewed by the Board during November.

Employee meetings will be held at two different sites. Three are scheduled in the 425 Building on Nov. 3, 4, and 8 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Board Room on the second floor. The other two are set for Nov. 4 and 8 at 2 p.m. in the Union Station Room on the second floor of the 818 Building.

More Brown Bags

Speaking of employee meetings, I'm pleased that I will be holding brown bag luncheons with the Real Estate Department on Nov. 18, with Customer Relations on Nov. 30, and MIS on Dec. 9. I am eager to resume meetings with the various units. In addition, I just completed taping two new videos for presentation to employees: one describes the new drug and alcohol policy, the other welcomes new staffers.

The CEO Advisory Group, by the way, will meet on Nov. 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Alvarado Room on the 6th floor.

Bike with the Mayor

On Saturday, Dec. 17, Mayor and MTA Director Riordan has invited all MTA employees and their families to join him on his monthly community bicycle ride, which will take place in the West San Fernando Valley.

If you're interested, be at Warner Center Park in Woodland Hills on Califa St. between Topanga Canyon Blvd. and Owensmouth at 8 a.m. for sign-in activities. I understand that the ride will be 20 miles with an average speed of 14 miles per hour. All participants must sign a release waiver and wear approved helmets. For further information, please contact David Wilson in Marketing at 4-7249.

Fare Update

Finally, some of you are unclear on what's going on with the fare structure. Here's the latest:

Last Thursday, Judge Terry Hatter indicated he would consider allowing the fare to go to \$1.35 if the MTA dropped its appeal of his preliminary injunction, if we demonstrated that our tokens were widely available at outlets throughout the county, and if monthly passes continued to be sold.

He also indicated that he may allow us to increase the price of the monthly bus passes from \$42 to \$60-\$65.

He has set a status conference for Nov. 21. Until at least that date, the fare remains \$1.10.

The sooner we are able to implement our new fare structure, the less impact the loss of revenue will have on our ability to maintain bus and train services.

- Franklin White

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

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