



HEADWAY



Southern California Rapid Transit District

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Ward & Schabarum: New RTD Board Members

Supervisors will add long-standing interest in transit



County Supervisor Baxter Ward was sworn in officially as a member of the RTD Board of Directors on Jan. 21 in the second floor board room offices of Transit headquarters.

In the picture above, he sits in on his first meeting as an official member after being sworn in, and exchanges a light moment with RTD Board president, Thomas G. Neusom, (center), and Jack R. Gilstrap, RTD general manager, (far left).

Baxter Ward, Los Angeles County Supervisor from the Fifth District and new RTD Board of Directors' member, brings to the RTD board a long-standing interest in public transportation. He has long been an advocate of a program that would utilize existing railroad routes for commuter travel in order to ease transportation problems in the Los Angeles basin.

Born Nov. 5, 1919 in Superior, Wisc., Ward attended school in Ephrata, Washington, and after graduating from high school, began working as a news announcer with radio station KRSC in Seattle. During the next three years, he worked at several other radio stations in Spokane and Seattle before entering the University of Washington. He continued his radio career while at the University until he enlisted in the army in World War II. He was commissioned second lieutenant at Fort Benning, Ga., and served in Africa, Italy, France and England. Director Ward worked briefly at the BBC in London after the war before returning to the states in 1946.

The following year he entered George Washington University in

Washington, D.C., and a few months later, began his television career at the ABC affiliate in Washington. In 1952, his work took him to Baltimore, Md., where he stayed until 1955 when he came to Los Angeles as a member of KCOP-TV (Channel 13). In 1962, he joined KABC-TV (Channel 7) as news director and anchorman, and resigned the position in 1969 to enter the mayoral race. Following his unsuccessful bid, Ward returned to the news field as news director and anchorman at KHJ-TV (Channel 9) and remained until he entered the race for County Board of Supervisors in 1972.

Ward is married and lives with his wife and son in Tarzana.

Commuter Rail Advocate

As a County Supervisor, Ward has pushed for a program that would ultimately enable the RTD to use commercial railroad lines for passenger transportation when these routes are not being used for commercial freight transportation.

Largely because of Ward, the RTD last year instituted administrative condemnation proceedings against some Southern Pacific railroad facilities

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Los Angeles County Supervisor — now RTD Board member — Peter F. Schabarum was born in Los Angeles on Jan. 9, 1929. He attended schools in San Marino, South Pasadena and Covina, and graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a bachelor's degree in business administration. While at Berkeley, Schabarum starred as a halfback on three Golden Bear football teams that played in the Rose Bowl. After graduation, he played professional football for three years with the San Francisco 49er's.

Schabarum began his career in public service in 1965 when he served as a foreman of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury and as a member of the Los Angeles County Attorney Advisory Board. The following year he was elected to the California State Assembly, representing the 49th district.

As an assembly member, Schabarum was legislative advisor to the State Public Works Board and served on numerous committees, among them the Efficiency and Cost Control Committee, the Ways and Means Committee, the Transportation Committee, the Revenue and Taxation Committee, the Constitution Committee and the Government Administration Committee.

Schabarum became a County Supervisor from the First District when ex-governor Ronald Reagan appointed him to fill an unexpired vacancy on

the Board created by the death of Supervisor Frank Bonelli. He was elected to a full term in 1974.

Schabarum served with the Air Force in Korea for two years, and resides with his wife and their three children in Covina.

On Jan. 6, 1975, Schabarum announced his intention to take the seat on the RTD Board of Directors vacated by Arthur Baldonado. After making his announcement, he outlined his objectives in a radio interview on Jan. 21.

In the interview, Schabarum stated: "I'm interested in pursuing what many describe as accomplishing the so-called short-term alternatives to our public transportation needs, and those are expanded bus service in certain areas, the encouragement of car pools and subscription buses and the providing of bus lanes in certain freeways or surface streets."

Expressing further views on public transit, Schabarum said: "My perspective is that good public transportation is really a basin-wide subject rather than only limited to, say, some of the cities within the County of Los Angeles or within the County itself.

"So, my cup of tea is that representation of the various points of view around the entire basin should be reflected on that Board of Directors, but," he added, "That hasn't ever been found to be acceptable by the legislature which, ultimately, has the final say on organizing the Rapid Transit District."



Peter F. Schabarum, County Supervisor, became a member of the Board of Directors on Feb. 5 after being officially sworn in at a meeting of the Board.

Administering the oath to Schabarum (right), is Richard K. Kissick, RTD Board secretary. Schabarum becomes the second Los Angeles County Supervisor to also be an RTD Board member.

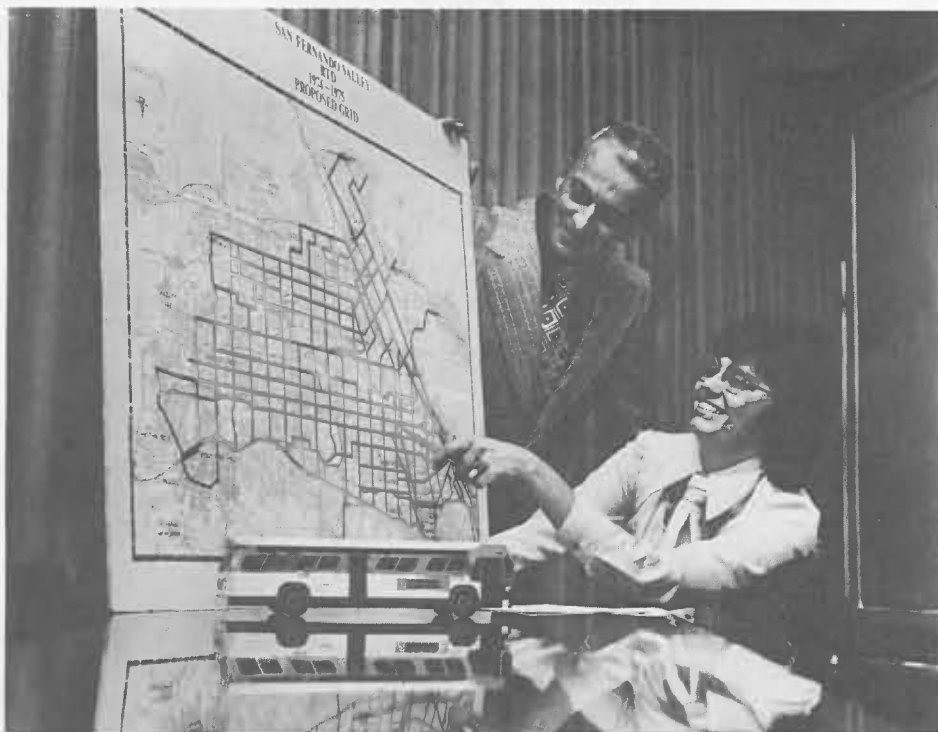
San Fernando Valley Regional Planning Office Opens

The Southern California Rapid Transit District is opening two new field offices for Community Relations and Planning as part of its on-going program to become more responsive to the diverse communities it serves. The offices will be in the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys.

According to Chris Dahlstrom, RTD director of community relations, "We want to have more dialogue with the communities we serve, and for this we need more input from the people in order to have the service fulfill their needs."

Dahlstrom said the District is so large, that people a long way from the central Los Angeles area may tend to feel isolated. "Transit-dependent individuals like to talk over problems and we want them to feel that they have easy access to the RTD." Dahlstrom added that he hopes the field offices will hear from everyone, including RTD passengers, civic leaders, local government officials and interested citizens.

"We need the people's help," he said, "to tailor service as much as possible to the community's needs. We know that everyone isn't going to be satisfied, but as we progress, we hope to make public transit truly more competitive with the automobile."



Russell Wilson and Mary Lou Echternach will staff the newly opened RTD Regional Planning office in the San Fernando Valley. They are shown reviewing the soon-to-be implemented San Fernando Valley modified grid system.

The first field office to open will be located at Division 8 in the San Fernando Valley, on Van Nuys Blvd., one block north of Sherman Way. Staffing that office which opened Monday, Feb. 3, will be Mary Lou Echternach, community relations representative, and Russ Wilson, associate surface planner, who will represent the planning department. Both Mary Lou and Russ bring to their new jobs a wide combination of special skills and extensive experience with the RTD.

Mary Lou came to RTD in 1971 as an information clerk, and was an information supervisor, ticket clerk and

ticket supervisor before being appointed community relations representative.

Russell Wilson joined RTD in 1959 as an operator out of old Division 10 and later became that division's clerk. In 1967 he became a schedule maker at transit headquarters, and after advancing through several scheduling positions, was appointed a surface planner in 1968. He was recently named associate surface planner.

Scheduled to open a few weeks later is the San Gabriel field office. It will be located at Division 9 near the El Monte Busway property.

District Facilities Toured

RTD recently played host to members of the American Public Works Association (APWA) who toured District facilities on January 9 when the APWA met in Los Angeles for their national convention. The tour was planned and arranged by William Reason, Marketing and Communications, Brian Pearson, senior transportation engineer, and Frank Barnes, deputy manager, operations. Richard Gallagher, RTD's chief engineer, and Samuel M. Black, assistant chief engineer, are both APWA members.

New Post For Olivas

Michael Olivas, former RTD labor relations associate, has been named new deputy administrator for Equal Employment Opportunity. He will be responsible for administering the District's Equal Employment and Affirmative Actions programs. Olivas came to the RTD three years ago as a personnel analyst and has been with the labor relations department for the past two years.

A native of Los Angeles, Olivas received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Cal State - L.A., and is currently enrolled in a graduate business administration program at Pepperdine University under the RTD's Tuition Reimbursement Program. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Elizabeth and their five children.

Olivas, who is presently reviewing the current status of the RTD's Equal Employment Opportunity Program, says his job is to "insure that all reasonable efforts are being made to achieve equal employment opportunities for all."

Pasadena's Park and Ride — Line 770 Off To A Good Start

Despite a very rainy Monday morning, (Feb. 3), Pasadena's park and ride Line 770 got off to an auspicious start with a well-attended inauguration ceremony at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium parking facility.

An 8 a.m. press conference started the ceremonies, with RTD general manager Jack Gilstrap fielding questions from the press. The guest of honor was Baxter Ward, L.A. County Supervisor and new RTD board member. Dignitaries included Pasadena Mayor, Mortimer J. Matthews, Sierra Madre councilman Joseph Del Gatto, Mrs. Laura Ingman, Pasadena League of Women Voters, and two representatives from the Pasadena Urban Coalition's transportation committee, Mrs. Cathaleen Gill and Mrs. Vivian Pearson. Representing the Los Angeles Rotary Club was Lynn E. Jackson, president of a Los Angeles environmental studies firm.

After the press conference, about 25 people boarded a bus specially reserved for the "maiden voyage" to downtown Los Angeles. The bus left from the park and ride site located at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium ga-

rage on Euclid Avenue between Green and Cordova Streets for the 25-minute ride to Washington and Olive Streets in downtown L.A. A quick continental breakfast of rolls and coffee was served to the passengers.

Pasadena's park and ride program becomes the 10th park and ride service now offered by the RTD. Line 770, which will connect with lines 19, 31, 61, 64, 70, 71, 107, 108, 109 and 110, will also have a unique feature: several one-way trips into and out of Los Angeles during the a.m. and p.m. rush hour will be reversed to provide express commuter service for people working in Pasadena.



RTD general manager Jack R. Gilstrap, left, is shown above with Pasadena mayor Mortimer J. Matthews, center, and James Lee, president of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, right.



Passengers board the first Pasadena Park and Ride bus on Monday, Feb. 3. Despite rainy weather, 71 persons used the services of the new Line 770 in the first day. Ridership for the next three days was 91, 108 and 118.

Allan W. Styffe, right, from RTD's operations department, keeps a watchful eye on the proceedings.



Patricia L. Potter was awarded the December award for Information Operator of the month for the month of December. RTD Director A. J. Eyraud and R. Williams, manager of Customer Relations, presented the award to Patricia.

Ward . . .

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ties which would, in effect, force S.P. to make those lines available for commuter travel.

Supervisor Ward explains: "I do not have in mind the wholesale take-over of the railroad's physical plant . . . rather, it is my belief that the railroad can be required to accept condemnation in the form of time and service units, on behalf of moving passengers on commuter trains."

Number 18 is Off And Rolling



Division 18, the RTD's newest addition, celebrated its official opening January 19 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Above, operator C. T. Smith (with scissors) gets help cutting the ribbon from, (left to right) J. T. Johnston, General Superintendent of Transportation, Tom Brown, Superintendent of Transportation Divisions, John Wilkens, Manager of Employee Relations, Jack Walsh, Director of Safety, Roland Krafft, Division 18 manager and George Heinle, Manager of Operations.

The new division, which is located at 190th St. and the Harbor Freeway, began operation with 45 buses and 25 maintenance personnel and will be increased greatly in the next several months when the South Central Grid System, of which Division 18 will be an important asset, becomes fully operational. At the present time, Lines 353-358, 360 and 362 operate out of the Division.



SCRTD transportation managers above display National Safety Council (NSC) plaques awarded their divisions for achievement in safety by the Los Angeles Chapter of the NSC. The awards, for achieving safe-driving records in competition with other California transit properties, were based on traffic accidents for million miles traveled during the 1974 fiscal year.

Divisions 12 and 9 placed second and third, respectively, in the "Over 350,000 miles per month" category, while Divisions 11 and 20 took first and third place respectively in the "200,000 to 350,000 miles per month" category.

From left to right, above, are: George Marsala, Division 9; Jack Greasby, Division 11; Ralph Costello, Division 12 and George Michaels, Division 10. J. T. Johnston, extreme right, General Superintendent of Transportation, congratulates his managers.



Operator of the Month for November L. J. Lampshire receives his Certificate of Merit Award from RTD Director A. J. Eyraud, RTD Board member, and V. Whitmore, Division 2 manager.



A smiling Benjamin Boone is pictured (r) above receiving the December Certificate of Merit Award for Operator of the Month. Presenting the award to Boone are RTD Director A. J. Eyraud, and R. Costello, manager of Division 12.

Transportation Management Program Graduates 2nd Group



The fifteen smiling certificate-holders above are graduates of RTD's second Transportation Management Program. The certificates of merit were presented by RTD Board President Thomas G. Neusom (l) at the January 7 Board of Directors meeting. At extreme right is RTD General Manager Jack R. Gilstrap.

The two-year course, offered through UCLA Extension, and designed specifically for the RTD, consisted of eight courses in such areas as business administration, community relations, managerial accounting and communications. Applicants for the program were selected on the basis of their letters of application.

From left to right, in the first row, standing next to President Neusom, are Joe Cooper, senior surface planner, Michael Pierce, personnel analyst, Martha L. Cotten, key punch, Donna L. Hockenbury, administrative assistant, Marketing and Communications, John M. Larabee, supervisory clerk, Purchasing.

In the back row, left to right, are Joe Lyle, assistant surface planner, Eugene Schaffer, Division 6 transportation manager, Gayle R. Ulbrich, accountant, John King, buyer, Purchasing, Wesly B. McCarns, Division 7 transportation manager, Frank E. Gordon, Division 8 dispatcher, Earl R. Morey, equipment foreman, Dan E. Brough, accountant, Dennis Fillmore, claims analyst, Workmen's Compensation. In the foreground is George A. McDonald, manager of Marketing and Planning.

RTD Says "THANKS"

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to two former members of the RTD Board of Directors, Don C. McMillan and Arthur Baldonado. The post vacated by Baldonado and McMillan will be filled by Peter F. Schabarum and Baxter Ward, respectively.



Donald C. McMillan is given a farewell kiss by Director Adelina Gregory, after being presented with his Certificate of Appreciation for ten years of service as an RTD Board member. McMillan was appointed to the Board in 1964.



Arthur Baldonado is shown with wife, Sandy, after receiving his Certificate of Appreciation from Thomas G. Neusom, RTD Board president, (center). Baldonado was appointed to the Board in 1972.

You're Never too Young To Take The Bus, But —



Two-year old David Covington of Inglewood, is shown re-united with his mother, Rosslyn Covington after he took an unauthorized mid-morning excursion bus ride on the RTD — by himself.

There is nothing so special about a young man getting on a bus in mid-morning to go where he's going.

But when Division 7's George L. Johnson pulled up at 5th St. and Grand Ave. to take on a passenger who had been sitting alone on a bench at the stop, Johnson knew something was wrong.

David Covington, who climbed aboard the bus carrying an extra coat and a toy, is only two years old.

Operator Johnson took the boy aboard and flagged the first police patrol car he saw. He turned the toddler over to officer D. Hennes who

took the boy to the Parker Center Juvenile division. Little David was soon reunited with his mother, Rosslyn Covington, of 721 Walnut St., Inglewood.

RTD Special Agents said Ms. Covington had taken her son to an aunt's house at 1050 West Blvd. before leaving for school in the morning.

It seems that the aunt was asleep when Ms. Covington arrived with the boy. So, she left him with a cousin, who later went to school himself. Finding himself all alone, young David took a walk, soon became weary . . . and decided to take a bus.



George L. Johnson, above, operator out of Division 7, noticed little David waiting for the bus on the corner of 5th and Grand Streets. Johnson let David board, no questions asked, then flagged down a patrol car. Police soon reunited David with his mother.

Making Headway

□ Division 10 operator William T. Maxwell and wife Mary are the proud parents of a brand new baby boy, William David, who was born on January 9 at 8:12 p.m. William David, who is named for one of his grandfathers, weighed in at seven pounds 10 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

□ Carrie Okimoto said "good-bye" to her many friends in the personnel department at her farewell party on Jan. 16. Carrie, a personnel technician, came to the RTD seven years ago. She is moving to San Jose where husband Roy has been transferred. Good luck in Northern California, Carrie!



□ Beverly Kitchell shows off some of the many presents she received at the January 24 baby shower given by her fellow PAX information operators. Helping Beverly with her many gifts are fellow information operators Michelle Smoot, far left, and Denice Mecca.



RTD President Thomas G. Neusom, right, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to the RTD Citizens Advisory Committee on Rapid Transit (CACORT.) Accepting on behalf of CACORT Chairman Thornton Bradshaw and committee members is Edgar Twine. The Certificate reads, in part: "For their outstanding performance and public service commitments in connection with their dedicated efforts in advising and informing the public regarding the need for Rapid Transit."

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