



HEADWAY

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Regional core subway proposal moves one step closer to reality at public hearings

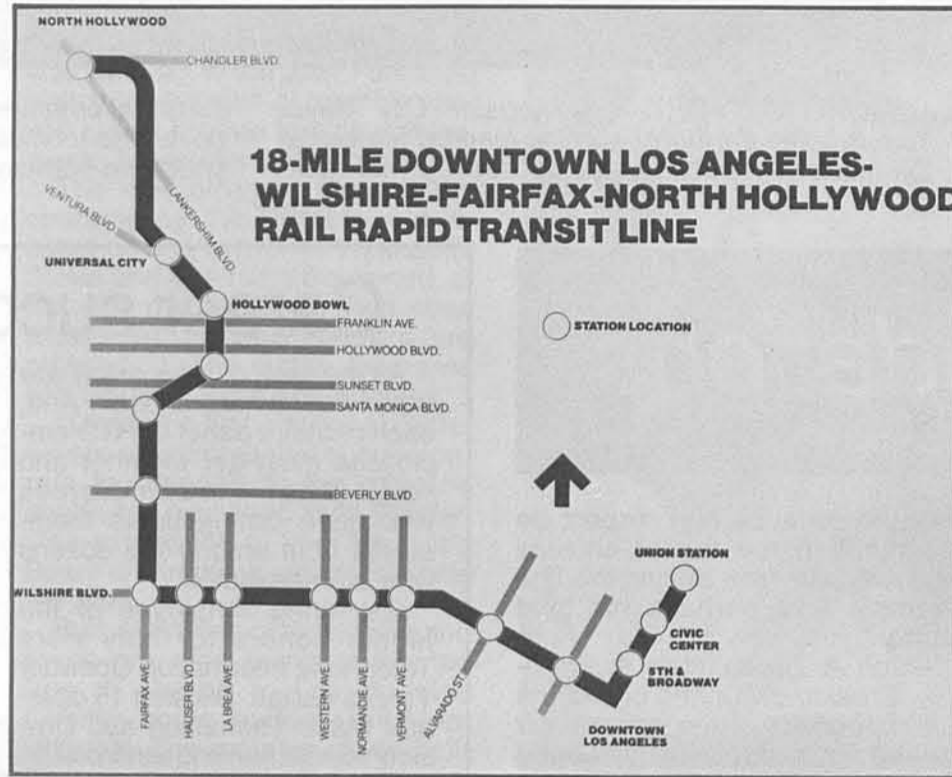
Nearly a dozen rapid transit proposals critical to Los Angeles' future were discussed during a series of RTD-sponsored public hearings the second week in July.

Federal, state, county and Los Angeles City officials, along with members of the RTD Rapid Transit Engineering Department, have been involved for two years in a study whose results were considered during the hearings.

Called a Transit Alternatives Analysis and Environmental Impact Statement, the report spells out 11 different plans including rail-bus and all-bus alternatives for improving mass transit in the Regional Core, the 55-square mile area encompassing downtown Los Angeles, the Wilshire area, Hollywood and North Hollywood.

Last October, the RTD Board of Directors gave preliminary endorsement to one of the alternatives. That proposal calls for construction of an 18-mile rapid transit line which would connect Union Station in downtown Los Angeles and North Hollywood via a route beneath Wilshire Boulevard, Fairfax Avenue, the vicinity of the Cahuenga Pass and terminating at Lankershim and Chandler boulevards.

Considerable favorable support was lent the District by city political



and civic leaders at the first hearing, held in the San Fernando Valley.

Among those supporting the so-called Wilshire Corridor Subway were Los Angeles City Mayor Tom Bradley, Councilwoman Pat Russell, U.S. Congressman Barry Goldwater, Jr., and spokesmen for the Music Corporation of America

(owners of Universal Studios), Los Angeles Valley College in Van Nuys, and various civic organizations.

"No tax increases or new tax would be required to finance this plan, estimated to cost \$1.2 billion in 1978 dollars," RTD Board President Marvin Holen, who chaired the hearings, told the gathering.

The plan also received considerable support from California Governor Jerry Brown, whose recently signed \$1.8 billion, five-year mass transit and alternative energy plan calls for construction of such a system.

"The RTD's preliminary analysis indicates that local funding is now virtually assured," said Holen of the energy bill. "Before it will supply Los Angeles with the 80 per cent funding it has in other cities for such a project, one of the preliminary requirements of Washington is the assurance of the 20 per cent local funding match."

All interested citizens and civic groups have been encouraged to comment on the 11 alternatives presented at the hearings and have been given until August 12 to do so.

In addition to the Board-endorsed plan are four proposals which call for some variation on the 18-mile subway, generally dealing with shorter routes (down to eight miles). Other alternatives call for an aerial busway along the same route as the subway, reservation of the center lanes on Wilshire and on La Brea for buses only, one reversible, median peak period express bus lane along Eighth and

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Flamenco dancer garners Ms. RTD title

Antoinette Lopez of Van Nuys in the San Fernando Valley, a professional Flamenco and Spanish Classical dancer, has been named Ms. RTD for Summer of 1979.

Lopez, who travels around Los Angeles via five RTD bus lines between work, school and leisure activities, will receive a monthly pass for each of the three months that she holds the title. The RTD passes are valued at approximately \$150 and enable Antoinette to ride any of the District's more than 200 lines during her reign, which ends in September.

The third RTD patron selected for the honor, Lopez will also receive a large photographic portrait of herself which will be displayed on some 1,500 buses traveling throughout the 185 cities and communities served by the District.

A member of two dance troupes, Antoinette was one of the many RTD customers representing a cross section of Los Angeles area bus riders who submitted their applications in connection with the Ms. RTD contest.

"I have long been a supporter and user of the bus system," said Lopez. "However, I became even more aware of the convenient, inexpensive variety of services offered by RTD during the recent energy crisis. As a result of that experience, RTD has become my main source of transportation."

In addition to her professional pursuits, Lopez teaches dance classes in Santa Barbara on weekends and is also interested in sewing, reading, cooking and horseback riding.

"Antoinette Lopez is another example of the fine, energy-conscious passengers who take RTD regularly," said RTD Board President Marvin L. Holen. "She is expected to make an excellent representative for the District during the summer months, because of her knowledge of the regular and special services RTD offers. It is a pleasure to bestow the title of Ms. RTD of Summer 1979 upon her."



subway

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Olympic or two exclusive curb bus lanes on Wilshire and La Brea. The other alternatives call for simply improving the present service in the Regional Core by use of high-capacity buses and increased service or simply sticking to the Status Quo and making no changes at all.

Once the deadline for comments has past, the District will make written responses to all responsible comments made during the hearings or delivered to the District. Those responses will be combined with the study and will constitute the final Environmental Impact Statement.

In September or October of this year, the Board of Directors will select one of the alternatives, with that choice subject to approval of several local and regional planning agencies.



LENDING SUPPORT—Los Angeles City Mayor Tom Bradley (far right) was the lead-off witness at the first of six public hearings dealing with rapid

transit alternatives in the city. Top-ranking local government officials lent their support to a Board-endorsed subway system.

Commendations

(Editor's note: Quoted below are excerpts from just a few of the hundreds of letters praising District operators received each month by the Customer Relations Department. Space simply does not permit printing even a list of all operators receiving commendations. All such letters are reported to the operator by his division manager, however, and a copy is placed in the operator's personnel file).

Willie Gibson, Division 8: "I had the privilege of being the first to board Mr. Gibson's bus and witnessed from beginning to end, the problems that faced the driver and how he handled them in a professional and expedient manner. As the bus pulled up to each stop, he dealt with kids trying to sneak on, an aggravated man who wanted to fight, people asking for directions, three foreigners who really caught the wrong bus but asked about it too late, an accident on the freeway which held up traffic for an hour, teenagers acting up and then a young woman fainting and doubling up in the aisle. Mr. Gibson kept the bus under control the entire time and presented himself as a person very much worthy of the utmost respect."

Jim Shorters, Division 7: "In an effort to promote the advantages of rapid transit in a large city I recently took my eighth grade class on a rather long ride across town on the RTD system . . . I would like to tell you of one particular individual who definitely deserves a few extra words of praise. Jim Shorters is most unique in his friendly and helpful treatment of RTD passengers. In the half hour we traveled with him, he must have said welcome aboard at least 100 times. It was a real lesson in psychology to see how his warm and open welcome truly changed the faces of the people boarding the bus and getting off at their destination . . . He spoke to every individual with a few welcome words or a contagious smile. He called out every stop and displayed driving courtesy on the road under some pretty difficult situations. Especially admirable — and something I hope my 14 and 15 year olds noticed —

was the patience and respect he extended to the senior citizens who rode with him. Setting this fine example was perhaps his best quality."

Ralph A. Bruno, Dale A. Simpson, Division 8: "During one of the hottest periods of the day my car stalled in a public driveway. I walked to the corner and called a repair place and two gas stations, none of which could help me. Returning to my car I saw two of your drivers and asked them to help me move my car to the side. They immediately checked the car and got it started for me. I must commend them for their courteous assistance."

Ernest Marshall, Division 1: "Being new to this state, I was trying to figure out the bus routes but could not get through to your 24-hour information line. I was in a restaurant and Mr. Marshall came in to have dinner. I asked him if he could help me and he gave me the information I was seeking. I appreciated this very much."

Earl Cobbs, Division 3: "The driver made three separate requests that a passenger turn his radio down. After the third request with no response the driver stopped at the next bus stop until the situation was resolved. In these times, it takes some degree of courage to speak out on behalf of the majority of passengers against the one who is inconsiderate."

Joseph E. Wise, Division 3: "We are a few of the people whose days are made brighter and happier by riding the 430 bus each morning with Captain Joe Wise. Joe is not only a careful and skillful driver, but he is also a spreader of good cheer and is the best goodwill ambassador the RTD ever had. We love him and want to nominate him for Driver of the Year." (This letter was signed by 22 people).

John L. Collins, Division 15: "Several of us transfer from the No. 20 line from Burbank and the connection is so close that it is usually a toss up as to whether we will make it or not. Your kind driver waited for us all to cross the streets, thereby starting our day off

(Please turn to page 5)

Career success saluted

As the saying goes, many are called but few are chosen. And, each month, a panel of RTD employees must get together and select those three employees who have distinguished themselves from among the dozens who are nominated.

Garnering Employee of the Month honors for May were Telephone Information Operator Teresa Quijas, Division 15 operator Marie Thompson and Division 18 mechanic Lisandro Martinez.

Teresa is one of many information operators who have faced the tremendous task of handling the record number of information requests the District has been receiving daily in the wake of the gasoline shortage and the resulting increase in ridership. She has distinguished herself as one of the more productive operators, maintaining an above average call count.

To use the words of her supervisor, "Teresa is a conscientious employee and a pleasure to work with." This marks Teresa's second recognition as an outstanding employee since she came to work for the District in October, 1975. She was Information Operator of the Month in May, 1977.

Marie Thompson has been an operator with the District for 28 years and in that time has earned a 23-year safety award

pin, has never had a missout and maintains a maximum of 60 merits.

And those are just her routine accomplishments.

Marie is the first female operator to earn Employee of the Month recognition since August of 1976. The mother of one daughter and grandmother to three children, Mrs. Thompson is the wife of recently retired operator Biven Thompson, who also worked out of the Sun Valley operating division. Biven retired in January with an almost identical service record to Marie's.

Mechanic-A Lisandro Martinez has worked for RTD since January, 1974. He was selected as Maintenance Employee of the Month for a number of reasons. He is an outstanding mechanic and very helpful in training younger mechanics on trouble shooting coach problems and proper maintenance procedures.

He has maintained an excellent attendance record, he is punctual and his attitude is conducive towards getting the job done regardless of the time involved or the nature of the repair needed.

He has proven that he can accept leadership when it is given to him and all the men in the division respect him because of his experience.



THE CHOSEN—Director Charles Storing (left) presents certificates to Marie Thompson, Teresa Quijas and Lisandro Martinez. Looking on are Division 15 Transportation Manager George Marsala, Manager of Customer Relations Bob Williams and Division 2 Maintenance Manager William Spencer.

ENERGETIC RESPONSE

Statistics reflect increasing use of RTD services

Everyone is aware that the increased demand put on the RTD in the wake of the developing energy shortage has resulted in increased service on the part of the District and its employees.

Well, now the statistics are starting to roll in that show just how significant that increase has been.

RTD's 2,600 buses rolled into service nearly 200,000 times in the five-county area served by the District during the first three months of this year, a 6.6 per cent increase over the same period last year. For the first quarter of 1979, District buses operated at an annual rate of 103.5 million miles.

However, first quarter ridership figures were completely overshadowed by the dramatic statistics registered in May, at the height of the gasoline shortage. For the 22 working days in May, average daily passenger boardings on RTD buses totalled 1,370,000. During May, 1978, average daily boardings were 1,100,000.

"The all-time one-day record was set Monday, May 14, when we recorded 1,470,000 boardings," announced RTD Board President Marvin Holen. "Just behind that was the following Monday, May 21, which saw a count of 1,460,000."

In other ridership counts for the month of May, El Monte Busway use was up more than 25 per cent over the previous month. Park-and-Ride lines showed dramatic increases throughout the service area, as much as 30 to 40 per cent higher on some lines, according to General Manager Jack Gilstrap.

Downtown minibus usage increased 18 per cent in May, while the District's Airport Express service carried 83,000 passengers to Los Angeles International Airport, an increase of 22,000 over April's total.

The Bus Express Employee Program (BEEP), RTD's commuter service to the El Segundo aerospace complex, more than tripled its usage, going from about 6,000 in April to 21,000 riders in May.

Pass sales rose 20 per cent during the first quarter, with sales of discount passes to senior citizens and students up 22 per cent. (Discount pass sales account for 58 per cent of all passes sold).

District operators can look with pride to the only decrease registered during the first three months of 1979. Customer complaints recorded per million boardings continued to drop slightly, with 23 received for every one million boardings. This compares to 24 per million received during the

same period last year.

About the only thorn in RTD's rose picture was that, as the age of the fleet continues to increase, the number of road calls for buses with mechanical problems continues to rise. During the first quarter, mechanics made road calls on the average of every 1,838 miles, compared to the first three months of 1978 when road calls were made every 2,005 miles.

The District was also moving ahead in other directions with programs established in response to the energy crisis.

A new Customer Service Center was opened in the San Fernando Valley for the sale of monthly passes and to provide free timetables, maps, brochures and information.

The new office — the seventh operated by the District — is located on the corner of Wyandotte Street and Van Nuys Boulevard, at the rear of Division 8. Two other Customer Service Centers are planned for the South Bay area and South Central Los Angeles.

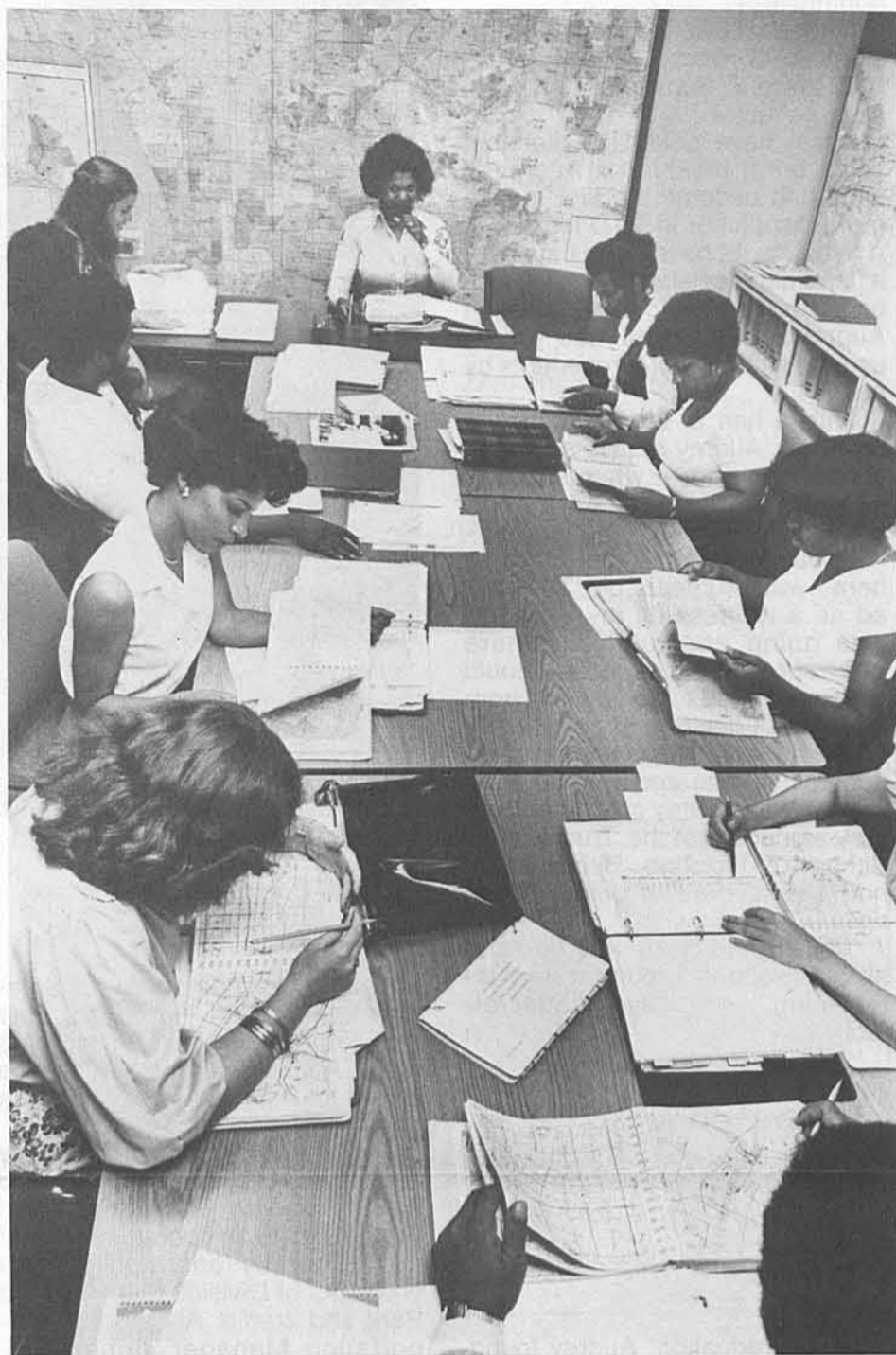
"This is the first additional center we are opening as part of our program to respond to the gasoline shortage," explained Ruth Richter, vice-president of the District's Board of Directors, who represents the area.

Bulk quantities of timetables and maps are also being distributed free of charge to Los Angeles County home builders and developers. The program allows builders and developers to request large quantities of timetables and area maps detailing all District services near their construction site, thus providing new and potential home buyers complete information on that area's bus service.

"Knowledge of a convenient, economical way of getting to work and back, as well as around the community for school, shopping and recreation, can be a key factor in the sale of a home or condominium," said Director Holen. "Many potential buyers are looking to public transportation as a way of cutting costs after buying a new home."

Due to the deluge of calls coming into the District's Telephone Information Center, which has made it impossible for some people to get through, Bus Information Teams were sent to five major shopping centers in the greater Los Angeles area.

The teams assisted new passengers with free maps, timetables and other helpful literature to help them get around easily on our bus system.



SCHOOL DAYS—Potential telephone information operators study the more than 200 RTD lines they will have to answer questions about when they become PAX operators. Class is part of training program for the 25 authorized new PAX positions.

Supervisor's actions save operator's wife

Division 8 operator Jay Stewart was extremely grateful that Supervisor W.F. Siedenburgh was on duty the evening of July 5th. But not for the reasons you might think. Stewart was not having mechanical problems with a bus or being hassled by an unruly passenger. Siedenburgh's actions on that post-holiday evening possibly saved Stewart's wife from having to have her arm amputated. He just may have saved her life.

Shortly after 8:30 p.m., Stewart, his wife and family were driving in the family car. As they passed through the intersection at Sepulveda Boulevard and Plummer Street, another vehicle ran the red light, slamming into the Stewart car.

Supervisor Siedenburgh, who was on duty at the time, came upon the accident just after it occurred. Stewart recalls what happened from there.

"If Supervisor Siedenburgh had not gotten an ambulance and police on the scene as quickly as he did, my wife's right arm might have had to be amputated," he recalled in a letter commending Siedenburgh's actions. "Thanks to his quick actions the flow of blood was restored at Panorama Memorial Hospital and she was later transferred to Kaiser Hospital, for stitches in her head, her arm placed in a cast and treatment of other cuts and bruises."

Stewart said that he and his family are extremely appreciative of the professionalism and efficiency demonstrated by Siedenburgh that night. "If more of us had (qualities like his) this world would be a much better place in which to live," Stewart wrote.

To honor Siedenburgh for his lack of apathy and concern for his fellow human beings, a special commendation award was presented to him on July 26 by the RTD Board of Directors.



OPEN FOR BUSINESS—Melba Sarris, office manager of the San Fernando Valley Ticket Office, displays the new system maps available at the District's seventh Customer Service Center along with free timetables, information and monthly pass sales.

It was only two short lines in last month's Schedule Changes section of *Headway*. Only the most thorough reader would have noticed it unless he were looking for it, but it was an historic note nonetheless.

It read: "Ortiz, Audrey J., (division) 3203, from Op.X. Supv. of V.O. to Op.X. Supv. of V.O.X. Rad. Disp. (effective) 4-07-79."

It may have looked like alphabet soup, but it meant that Audrey J. Ortiz had become the first female radio dispatcher in RTD history.

What might have been cause for a landmark celebration for some barely ruffled the blonde curls on Audrey's head. She has gotten used to setting such precedents by now.

With a hint of impish humor in her eyes, Audrey recalls a time — not so long ago — when she was not so composed and self-confident about such matters.

"It dawned on me one day that here I was, 40 years old, I'd worked as a waitress all my life and I was going absolutely nowhere fast," she says. "I suppose I could have continued to go downhill from there, but I decided to get gutsy."

With a young daughter to raise and being separated from her husband, getting gutsy meant that Audrey signed up at the Truckmaster School of Trucking. Believe it or not, she learned to drive the big rigs.

"My life had been very dull and all of a sudden I found it very interesting," she says matter-of-factly.

*'I was 40 years old,
had worked as a waitress
all my life and I was not
going anywhere fast'*

After "graduation" Audrey found herself making transcontinental runs in a diesel rig for a national trucking company, but this was not exactly compatible with being a mother. The cab of a truck is not the best place to raise a child.

So she decided to settle down



FIRST LADY—Audrey Ortiz says she has had no problem fitting into the routine of the Dispatch center, despite being the first female to hold the position.

Audrey Ortiz keeps on truckin' down the road to success

and went to work locally for Safeway Markets, driving one of their big delivery trucks from store to store. Audrey was the first female driver to work for the nationwide supermarket chain.

From there it was a relatively simple move from hauling food to hauling people when she joined the District as an operator in July of 1975. Audrey operated for two years out of Division 3 in Highland Park and credits Assistant Transportation Manager James Cinderelli for inspiring her to climb the company ladder.

"I owe him a lot," she confesses. "He constantly encouraged me to try and better myself, to not be content to stay a driver, but to get on up the line as far as I could."

The result is obvious. She has gone farther in her line than any woman to come before her and she has broken new ground several times. From operator she went to Division Dispatcher at Division 3. She followed that up with a brief stint as a Staff Assistant but recalls, "I decided very quickly that that was not where I wanted to be."

So, she applied for and qualified for a supervisor's position, becoming the first woman to do so with RTD (there are now four women supervisors). After the mandatory one-year period, she opted to try for the Radio Dispatcher's job.

Audrey credits a great deal of her success in the past and with RTD to the fact that she is a woman . . . not because the times are right for women to make career strides, but because being a woman has made her try harder at whatever she attempts.

Her boss, Superintendent of Transportation Services Jeff Diehl, agrees.

"I really never had any doubts that Audrey couldn't handle the job because she has always done well at any of the positions she has held with the company. The reason we never had a woman in this position before is that Audrey's the first one to qualify," Diehl explains, adding that Audrey went through the normal promotion procedure for the position. She finished second out of 10 applicants and that included convincing an Oral Review Board that she could do the job.

Then followed a six-week training period to learn Central Dispatch Center operations. Since she has been on the job, Diehl says he can sum up her performance in one word, "Fantastic. She possesses all the traits a radio dispatcher needs: patience, understanding, a thorough knowledge of company rules and procedures, an even temperament and the ability to respond to stress situations."

Audrey says she has yet to encounter anything in the way of stress to equal the first accident she was called upon to handle as a Supervisor of Vehicle Operations. That situation involved a bus versus auto collision on busy Wilshire

Boulevard with dozens of people sent to the hospital. Nothing that traumatic has happened over the airwaves as yet, she reports.

"Whatever job I have done, I always make sure I'm as good at it as I can possibly be," she says. "I really like the work here, it's very interesting and I would like to go as far as possible in this office."

While she does not have her eyes on any particular job, she says, "Who knows what may open up?"

Despite the inroads she has made into a previously all-male domain, Audrey shies away from thinking of herself as a feminist.

"No, sir. I'm no women's libber," she says with a big smile. "If a man came along who could support my daughter and I in the style to which we've become accustomed, I'd give up my job right now. I still want

*'If I can do the things
I have done, anyone can.
It's just a matter of
wanting to do them'*

to be known as a woman and a mother and the guys here treat me as such."

Now 16 years old, her daughter is "very proud of her mom," Audrey says. "When I first started working as a Radio Dispatcher, she heard my voice come over a bus radio while she was riding to school. She told me later she wanted to stand up and tell everyone on the bus, 'Hey, that's my mom?'"

If she were to give any advice to others it would probably be that success is a matter of desire, of wanting something and not being content with the way things are.

"If I can do the things I have done," she says, "anyone can. It's just a matter of wanting to do them."

There are those who contend that life begins at 40 . . . or 50 . . . Bus Radio Dispatcher Audrey Ortiz is a perfect example that life begins when you want it to.





Retiree recognition

Retirement is both a happy and sad time as workers look forward to relaxing after long careers, yet must say good-bye to old friends they have toiled with for years. In July, eight District employees "shifted gears" into retirement as the Board of Directors honored them for their years of dedicated service to the transit industry. Director George Takei (left) passed out commemorative plaques and congratulations to (front row, left to right) Buddy Sutton, 33 years; William D. Adkison, 34 years; Mac H. Baldrige, 32 years (back row, left to right) Joseph R. Pokorski, 33 years; and Richard J. Veeh, 38 years. Unable to attend the ceremony was Robert L. Joy, 21 years.

Commendations

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right. It's only a minute for him, but still there are very few who take the time to remember that at that particular stop there are nearly always a couple people trying to get to work on time."

J.W. Johnson, Jr., Division 7: "He called the streets at each bus stop. Most drivers do not render this service so indispensable to the blind traveler. As a blind bus rider, I was further impressed by the care he took to enumerate two and three bus lines intersected by the Melrose line at its major crossings. I hope I ride with him again soon."

Bob Robinson, Division 18: "His patience and good humor has impressed many of his passengers, they express their gratitude and commend him on his very helpful manner. I have watched this for several months and have myself been helped just by seeing there are people still in the world who are genuinely charitable. It has nothing to do with job duty, his kindness extends beyond this . . . I have seen him patiently and courteously placate a most irascible female passenger I would not even try to reason with. I have seen him take the time to try to find out where the passengers want to go and direct them . . . Above all, his patience and good humor stands out. Seeing his acts of kindness certainly helped to restore my confidence in the human race."

David L. Weed, Division 7: "This driver seems to be extraordinarily concerned with the safety and comfort of his passengers. He makes every effort to be courteous and helpful in giving directions, explaining transfer points and so on. He also shows great concern for the elderly, women with babies or small children, the handicapped and passengers with large packages. Likewise, he does not hesitate to enforce the rules regarding no smoking or drinking on the bus, or any other act that is unlawful or unbecoming. He impresses me."

David Burtleston, Division 5: "I dropped my monthly bus pass on his bus. A passenger gave it to him. Due to the fact I have my identification card in my pass holder, he contacted me and was kind enough to deliver my pass to my home. I am very grateful to him."

Bonnie Burrell, Division 3: "I had occasion to ride the RTD after many years of traveling by car. Having no knowledge of the bus route, I was extremely grateful for the unhesitating willingness and genuine sincerity of your operator. She has won my respect and esteem, not only for herself, but for RTD as well."

Robert Hall, Division 15: "His personality is tops, always courteous, pleasant but at the same time tough when it comes to rules and regulations of the company."

J. Eskiewicz, Jr., Division 8: "I have been riding RTD since 1971 and I don't believe I have met a more helpful, polite and certainly conscientious driver. He knows his passengers and keeps a watchful eye at each stop for late comers. He is an excellent driver and gets us home on time."

S. Williams, Division 6: "While in the process of directing one of the passengers, he inadvertently passed the bus stop where an elderly woman wished to get off. When made aware of this, he immediately stopped the bus, got off and assisted this senior citizen back to her desired stop."

Cleophus Hicks, Division 2: "I boarded the number 7 bus on Spring for Glendale. Since it was my first trip out that way, I was uncertain as how to reach my destination. The driver was very courteous and very informative. I learned that I could ride the 436 bus which is much closer to my home and would get me within one block of where I was going."

Rudy Walker, Division 2: "He is a very safe driver, even in the thickest traffic. He is a very helpful, courteous and polite driver. He needs a big pat on the back."



The gang's all here

The RTD Board of Directors got together to present retiring District Secretary Richard Kissick with a special board resolution commending him for his 41 years of service. Joining Kissick, who officially retires September 1, were (front row, left to right) David Hayward, Gerald Leonard, Jay Price, Kissick, Michael Lewis, Marvin Holen, (back row, left to right) George Takei, Charles Storing, Ruth Richter, and Carl Meseck. Not shown were Don Gibbs and Thomas Nuesom. The District Secretary is one of four positions appointed directly by the board.



Four-in-one fete

A four-in-one-celebration was held recently at Division 12 in Long Beach to honor a quartet of that division's operators who were shifting gears into retirement. Division Transportation Manager Ralph Costello (center) joined other division employees in congratulating (front row, second from left) Harold Naughton, Leonard V. Shackell, Robert Joy and Elbert Beesley. Next to Beesley is his wife, Betty.

BRIDGING THE GAP

Program offers students look at real world

Helping bridge the gap between academic and practical experience, the RTD Safety Department participated in a Safety Internship Program with the University of Southern California.

Jacquie Smith, who recently received her Bachelor of Science degree in safety from USC, earned course credit for on-the-job training with the RTD safety staff.

During the program, close monitoring of work progress was maintained by the university's Safety Department Chairman Dr. Ted Ferry. This included worksite evaluation of Smith's activities.

Throughout the program, Jacquie took part in the full realm of functions performed by members of the District Safety Department, including inspections, interviews, and investigations," explained Director of Safety Joe Reyes. Reyes was instrumental in coordinating the establishment of the program with USC.

The insights Smith gained through her internship paid off as she has now accepted a position with IBM in San Jose, California, as a Safety Inspector. In her new

position she will be responsible for all facets of safety education, training and investigation.

"I'd like to thank all the members of the Safety Department for helping me in this program," said Smith. "They devoted a lot of their time and gave me a lot of encouragement. Through programs like this, RTD is not only contributing to the shaping of future safety professionals, but also to the world of safety."

While this first program was conducted mostly on evenings and weekends, Reyes noted that subsequent groups of interns will be more involved in daily operations.

Set to start in September, the next group may have as many as three interns.

"I see this as a reciprocating program," explained Reyes. "We get people interested in safety to help us with numerous assignments, and they gain insights to the real world experience of a safety practitioner."

"It continues RTD's philosophy of contributing to the growing safety movement by helping to train future safety Professionals."



GETTING TO KNOW YOU—Safety Department intern Jacquie Smith (second from left) enjoys an informal meeting with Director of Safety Joe Reyes (from left), Safety Specialist John Brewer and Division 9 Assistant Maintenance Manager Ted Hustava.



ROUND AND ROUND SHE GOES—Ted Hustava explains operation of a brake lathe to Jacquie Smith during a safety inspection at the Division 9 maintenance facility.

Classified

- Lot for sale near Crestline in the San Gabriel Mountains. More than 10,000 square feet, zoned residential. Call Jim Smart, (213) 376-5465.

- Contemporary buffet and dinette set for sale. Good condition. \$100. Call LeRoy Carlson at (213) 842-7087.

- 1970 Plymouth Valiant with new engine, transmission, brakes and battery. \$1,250. 1974 Cadillac SDV, Excellent condition. \$2,800. Call Abdul S. Chawdhry between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at (213) 705-4868.

- New 19-foot family ski boat with blue-painted 460 Ford, Panther Jet and competitive tandem axle trailer. \$7,995. Call between 4-10 p.m., (213) 861-2959.

- Complete bedroom set including mattress, head-

- board, frame and chest with mirrors. Brand new. \$550. Call between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. (213) 295-6730.

- Conn. Organ, good condition, Maple. Birdsey. \$300. Call anytime (213) 255-9164.

- 1976 Cadillac Seville, two-tone Burgundy Maroon with Rolls Royce grill, true spoke classic wire wheels, brand new tires, stereo unit valued at \$1,500. Like brand new, immaculate. Asking \$12,000, or make offer. Must sell! Call 268-0226.

- 1953 Ford Pick-up with rebuilt Lincoln engine and transmission, positraction rear end (Chevy), brand new TA-50s low profile Goodrich radials and rims, interior done, customized grill with double headlights. Must see to appreciate. Asking \$4,000 or make offer. Must sell. 268-0226.

David Dominguez assumes post as Manager of EEO

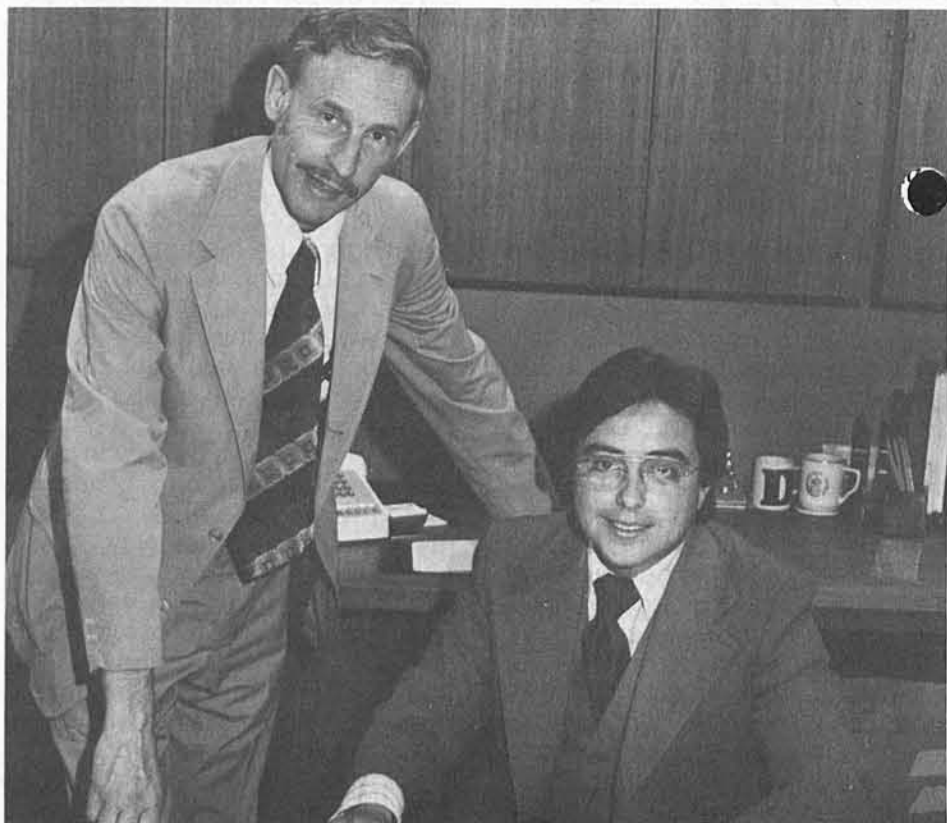
David Dominguez has joined the Executive Staff of the Southern California Rapid Transit District as manager of RTD's Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) Office.

At the RTD, Dominguez will be responsible for ensuring the District is in compliance with EEO regulations relating to nondiscriminatory practices affecting employment regardless of race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin or disability.

In addition he is responsible for the District's compliance with regulations affecting Minority Business Enterprise participation in District procurement.

Prior to joining the District, Dominguez was the Affirmative Action Administrator for Blue Cross and the EEO Regional Representative for the Kaiser-Permanente Medical Care program in Southern California.

Dominguez is a graduate of California State College at Long Beach and has earned a master's degree in urban studies from Occidental College and in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.



ON THE JOB—New Manager of EEO office David Dominguez (seated) goes over some reports with representative Roger Rose.

Best bargain in town!

St. Bernard puppies in need of a good home? A 1965 Chevrolet being replaced by a newer model? A four-poster bed tucked away in the garage? Whatever you want to sell, trade or give away, let fellow RTD employees have the first chance and advertise it in Headway at no cost. Just fill out the coupon below and return it to Headway, RTD, 6th Floor, 425 So. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90013. (Please include home telephone numbers only.)

Name: _____

Work location: _____

Description of item: _____

Price: _____ Hours to call: _____

Area code: _____ Telephone no.: _____

MAKING HEADWAY

Victor Muniz, a representative of the Stops and Zones Department, has had his mind on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., a lot lately.

No, Munitz is not considering giving up his career in public transportation after 32 years to seek a political office. He has been thinking about his 20-year-old daughter, Katharyn, who is working in the nation's capitol as part of an eight-week internship with Congressman Wayne Grisham of the 33rd District (which includes La Mirada where the Muniz family resides).

Kathy, a senior at the University of California, Los Angeles majoring in political science, was one of 60 students selected to participate in a government internship program sponsored by UCLA.

According to father Victor, Kathy was looking forward to observing the political world firsthand and was especially interested in seeing how government functions. The internship began in mid-June.

"I want to try and apply what I've learned in class to what really happens in government," she told a reporter for a local newspaper. She said she also hoped to work with complaints from the people who live in the 33rd congressional district because, "it's my home and I think I know it best."

Victor said his daughter's interest in politics had grown since she worked on a campaign during a local election. He said Kathy's hopeful this experience in Washington will help her determine if politics is the career she wants to pursue.



KATHY, VIC MUNIZ

Director of Safety Joe Reyes and his wife, Rose, will have little trouble remembering the date of June 19. That's the day their first child was born. Promptly named Roslyn Nicole, the child was born at 6:30 p.m., weighed 7½ pounds and was 19½ inches long. As a June baby, the following is dedicated to her from an anonymous poet:

Who comes with summer to this earth

And owes to June her day of birth

With ring of Agate on her hand

Can health, wealth and long life command.

Division 3 operator Robin Sands is celebrating the arrival of his second son, Bryan Arthur, born the day after the Fourth of

July. Mother and baby are doing fine and from the same anonymous poet:

The glowing Ruby should adorn

Those who in warm July are born,

Then will they be exempt and free

From love's doubt and anxiety.

Lewis H. Ellis, a Supervisor of Vehicle Operations for the District, knows the meaning of hard work and perseverance. Lewis recently received his Bachelor of Science degree in Public Administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Concentrating on Administrative Management and Public Personnel Administration, Ellis spent four years attending classes during the day while working nights as a supervisor.

"In between every spare moment was filled with studying," says Ellis, who believes that the person best suited for any position is the person who knows how to learn. "More and more, companies are looking for people with intelligence and problem-solving ability, people who are dependable and work well with others."

Ellis joined the District as an operator in July of 1959. In March of 1965 he was promoted to Operator Extra Supervisor of Vehicle Operation and has worked in his present capacity since July, 1967.

In obtaining his education, Lewis took advantage of the District's tuition reimbursement program when possible to cover the costs of books, materials and tuition.

"I am very grateful for the help and support," Ellis says. "I feel that I have accomplished another long-awaited goal in my life and this degree reflects my determination to succeed."

In case you've ever wondered what goes on on a fishing boat, we have this report filed by John King from the San Clemente Island Fishing Trip. Some 49 of the 50 scheduled to go showed up for the overnight jaunt. King reports he saw Pat Kelly using night crawlers, Carl Johnson was fasting, he never left the galley. Frank Larson could only get one bunk. Marty Martinez was chumming at 3 a.m. Walter Whiteside had three poles but caught 27 fish. Paul Tassone lost an Anchovy in his beard.

John Brazzle, the quiet man, really was there. Bill Kovach never left the bow. Epi Ramirez (23 fish) paid for his boss' lunch. Lester Heffler outfished his dad. Someone thought they saw Lee Cayen using a shotgun to hunt for fish.

Louis Carreon won the Jackpot Prize for the largest top fish, while Thomas Edwards won the honors for the biggest bottom dwelling fish. The general consensus, King reports, was let's do it again! (By the way, if anyone is missing a tackle box, call John at ext. 6253).



LOUIS CARREON



THOMAS EDWARDS

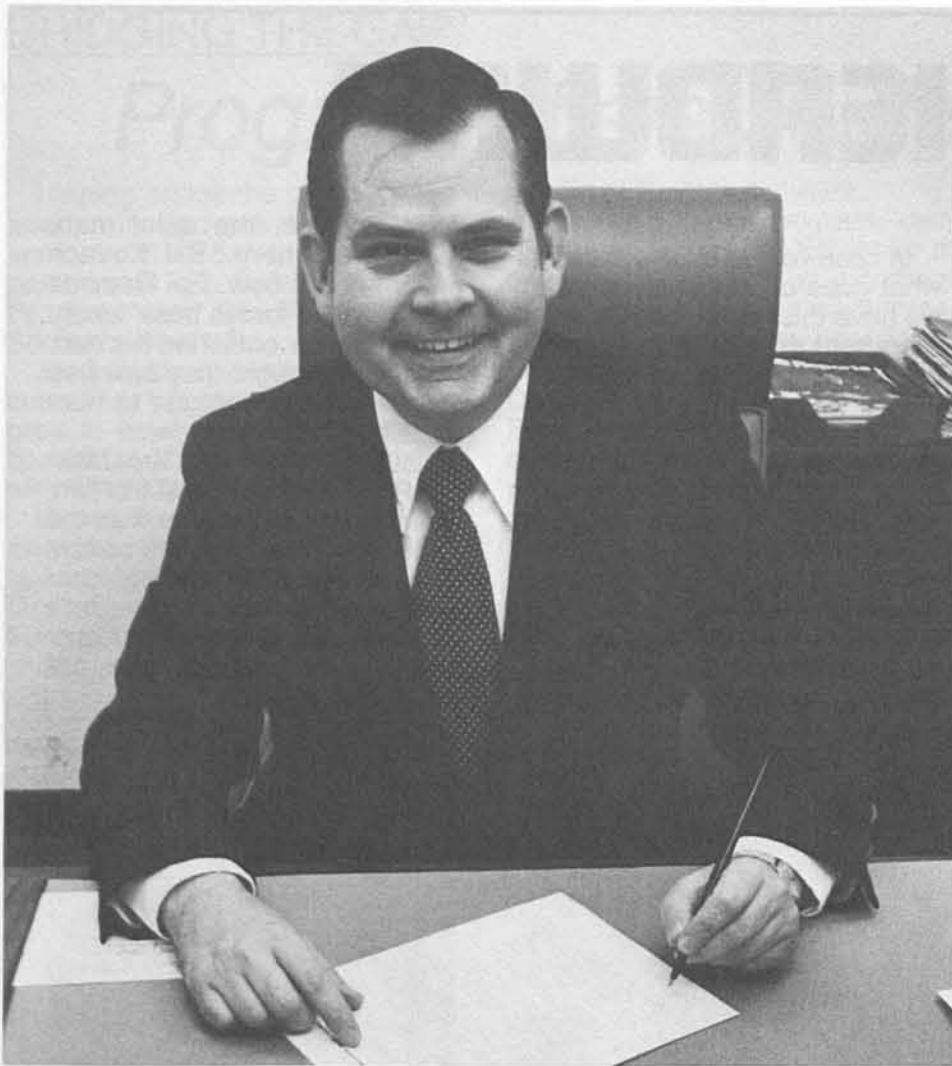
Employee Name: _____
 Badge No.: _____ Work Location: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
 Event: _____
 Date Occurred: _____ Place: _____
 Other Facts: _____

"Making Headway" is designed to publicize news about your personal achievements and those of your family, whether it concerns births, graduations, anniversaries, retirements, special awards or other such accomplishments. Please use this card to forward any such news to David Himmel, Headway Editor, 6th Floor, 425 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA, 90013. Or, simply submit your announcement via company mail to Headway Editor (House Organ Editor), Location 32. If you send photographs, black-and-white is preferred.



The safe performance award program, now entering its fourth year, has helped reduce the system-wide fleet accident rate from 12,000-miles-between-accidents in 1976 to the present 14,000-miles-between-accidents. Winners of the First Quarter 1979 Safe Performance Award were Division 8 Transportation, which had a 16 per cent improvement in its miles between accidents from 16,000 to 19,000; and Division 12 Maintenance, where employees went 15,000 hours with only one lost-time injury. Pictured here accepting the awards from Director of Safety Joe Reyes (left) and Director Jay Price are John Adams, Assistant Transportation Manager at Division 8; and Milton Spencer, who accepted the award on behalf of Division 12's Floyd Hughes.

Safety
prone



MAYNARD Z. WALTERS

Maynard Z. Walters takes reins of Purchasing Dept.

Maynard Z. Walters, 41, has been appointed Director of Purchasing and Stores for the Southern California Rapid Transit District. The position is under the general administrative direction of Controller-Treasurer-Auditor Joe Scatchard.

Walters comes to the District from the Samsonite Corporation, where he was Manager of Purchasing and Transportation in the Softside Luggage Division at the company's Tucson, Arizona, headquarters. He joined them in 1973.

Prior to that he was a purchasing agent with International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT), pre-

ceded by 10 years in the United States Air Force as an Intercept Weapons Controller. He attained the rank of Major and is a member of the Air Force Reserve.

Married to his wife, Caroline, for 17 years, Walters has two children: a daughter, Lee, 12; and a son, Christopher, 6.

His duties with the District will include purchasing all equipment and commodities for the company and managing all the stores.

A graduate of the College of William and Mary, Walters has a master's degree in Management from the University of Southern California.

Schedule Changes

Moving Up

Name	Div./ Dept.	Classification	Date
Cale, Douglas R.	3202	Operator to Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5/20/79
Fredrick, William	7300	Jr. Stlk Clk. to Trk. Dr. Clk. Rel.	5/01/79
Shibata, Kenneth W.	3306	Shipping Clk. to Equip. Rec. Spec.	4/30/79
Vivian, Darrell D.	3208	Operator to Op. Ex. Div. Disp.	5/20/79

Shifting Gears

Name	Div./ Dept.	Classification	Hired	Retired
Airhart, Robert	3203	Operator	5/26/57	6/02/79
Bradford, L.D.	3305	Utilit A	1/04/46	6/02/79
Chevlin, Sydney	3209	Operator	5/20/42	6/17/79
Felan, Rudy	3203	Operator	8/17/59	6/02/79
Fitzpatrick, Henry J.	3298	Radio Dispatcher	5/06/47	6/10/79
Frey, Lowell W.	3205	Operator	4/30/42	6/01/79
Horton, Roy	3209	Operator	9/29/58	6/29/79
Jensen, Lars Dale	3215	Operator	1/22/58	6/05/79
Keith, Alfred V.	3314	Mechanic "A"	3/27/50	6/02/79
Langlois, Dorothy Mae	6200	Senior Interviewer	10/07/46	6/02/79
Larson, Lyman W.	3201	Operator	6/08/48	6/13/79
Lubak, John J.	3209	Operator	10/29/47	6/02/79
Montgomery, Thomas	3209	Operator	2/04/43	6/04/79
Schardijn, Leonard	3302	Equipment Maintenance Supervisor 1	9/21/59	5/20/79
Stanley, Earl W.	7300	Director of Purchasing & Stores	4/01/41	6/02/79
Swanson, Stanley C.	3208	Operator	4/08/47	6/02/79
Thomas, Ronald L.	3208	Operator	8/05/67	5/16/79
Ward, Alexander	3302	Utility A	8/13/52	6/02/79
Wildish, Eva M.	4445	Ticket Office & Reports Clerk	3/27/61	6/27/79
Williams, Raymond P.	3209	Operator	8/04/66	5/19/79

In Memoriam

Name	Div./ Dept.	Classification	Deceased
Carlisle, Millard	3314	Former Watchman-Retired	6/07/79
Franchin, Leo	3207	Former Operator	5/31/79
Fisher, Michael	3221	Former Traffic Loader-Retired 8/2/78	6/08/79
Frye, Vernie	3206	Former Operator Retired 8/3/62	5/27/79
Galindo, Susan	3203	Operator	6/15/79
Jackson, Henry	3302	Utilit "A" - Transferred to Ind. Lve. 4/29/79	5/28/79
Losey, Ralph E.	3209	Former Operator - Retired 1/6/79	6/07/79

RTD SOFTBALL LEAGUE STANDINGS (As of July 15, 1979)

Division	W L
Division 9-operators	5-0
Division 6	4-0
Division 5	4-1
Headquarters	3-1
Division 2	3-2
Division 12	3-2
Division 7	1-4
Division 18	1-4
Division 1	0-5
Division 9-mechanics	0-5

Week 1
 9-ops def. HQ, 13-5
 6 def. 9-mech, 14-0
 5 def. 7, 13-8
 2 def. 1, 4-3
 12 def. 18, 11-9

Week 2
 9-ops def. 12, 7-0
 6 def. 2, 9-2
 5 def. 1, 11-9
 HQ def. 7, 11-1
 18 def. 9-mech, 11-2

Week 3
 9-ops def. 5, 7-5
 6 def. 1, nsa

HQ def. 18, 6-5
 2 def. 7, 6-4
 12 def. 9-mech, 20-1

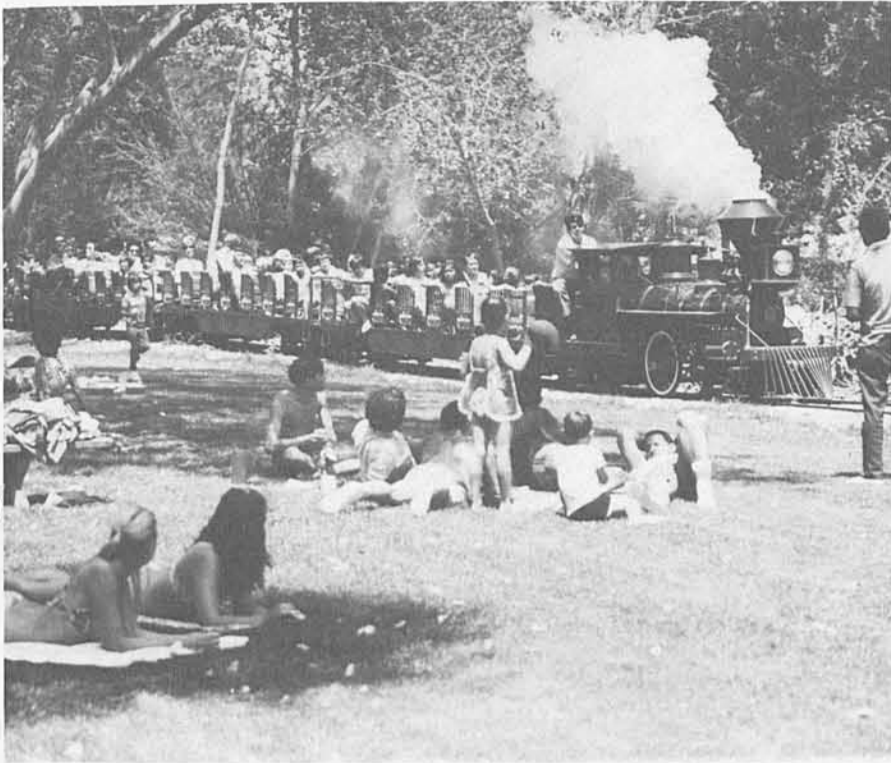
Week 4
 9-ops def. 2, 4-1
 6 def. 18, 8-6
 HQ def. 12, 6-5
 5 def. 9-mech, forfeit
 7 def. 1, 12-5

Week 5
 9-ops def. 1, 12-2
 5 def. 18, 10-2
 12 def. 7, 12-8
 2 def. 9-mech, 11-0
 HQ vs. 6, postponed

**Family Fun Party
 Disneyland**

**Sunday, September 16
 4 p.m. to midnight**
Admission to Disneyland and unlimited use of all attractions (shooting galleries excepted) including dancing, entertainment, bands, shows, free parking.
Tickets:
\$5.00 for RTD employees & family \$5.75 for guests (Children 2 years and under free)
Contact the Recreation Department at Ext. 6580.

Third Annual RTD Employee Picnic



A new date, a new location and lots of new things to do guarantees that the Third Annual RTD Employee Picnic will be the biggest and best ever sponsored by the District's Recreation Department.

This year's get-together will be held at Soledad Sands Park, a 30-acre oasis situated in smog-free Soledad Canyon near the town of Acton, north of Los Angeles. The park, especially designed to accommodate company, church and club picnics, is in the midst of a 600-acre ranch and features 10 acres of lawn for picnicking in the shade of giant Cottonwood trees.

Other features the park offers to District employees and their families include a half-acre swimming pool, a wading pool that meanders stream-like through the picnic area, games, a .7-mile miniature railroad ride, restrooms and virtually everything you need for a day of family fun.

And that, of course, includes food.

RTD Employee Activities Coordinator Diane Delaney has arranged for a menu that will include BBQ chicken, BBQ ribs, corn-on-the-cob, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, potato chips, pickles, rolls and butter and lemonade.

Ticket prices for the day-long event are \$3.50 for adults and \$2 for children five to 10 years old. Children under five are admitted free. There will be no admittance to the park without a ticket and tickets will not be sold at the gate, Delaney explained.

"The District picnic is the Recreation Department's most heavily subsidized event of the year," said Delaney. "Because of this, only RTD employees, retirees and their immediate family are included. The only exception to this is for single employees, who are allowed to bring a companion."

In addition to the food, the ticket price includes use of such park facilities as:

- A 125- by 225-foot filtered swimming pool that ranges in depth from two to nine feet. There is a one-meter diving board and a twelve foot high slide in the deep and a six-foot high slide in the shallow end. Lifeguards are on duty.

- More than 300 picnic tables scattered over the park's 10-acre lawn, mostly in the shade of Cottonwoods. Barbecues are available for free use, but you may bring your own if you wish.

- No picnic would be complete without games and District employees can enjoy horseshoes or volleyball on special courts with equipment available for no extra charge. For kids of all ages there are life-sized fire engines, fishing boats, slides, swings, sandboxes, a moon bounce and wading pools. There are two baseball diamonds

(bring your own equipment) and hiking trails abound in the area.

— Parking space is available for more than 1,000 cars and free bus service will be provided from most of the divisions.

Of course, there are certain rules that must be obeyed, but they are simple. The park allows absolutely no hard liquor of any kind, no glass bottles, no pets and no cars or trucks on the lawn.

The park is located a significant distance from Los Angeles, but it is the minimum distance needed to escape the smog and congestion of the city. Where the demand is sufficient to justify their use, buses will leave the District's various operating divisions at approximately 9 a.m. the day of the picnic. If you drive, take the San Diego or Golden State Freeways north to Highway 14 (the Antelope Valley Freeway). Get off at Crown Valley Road in Action and its four miles to Soledad Sands Park.

RTD EMPLOYEE PICNIC TICKET ORDER FORM

Name: _____ Badge: _____

Work Location: _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone: _____

I plan to ride a bus from Division _____

Please send me:

_____ Adult tickets @ \$3.50 each. Total\$ _____

_____ Childs tickets @ \$2 each. Total \$ _____

Enclosed Total\$ _____

DO NOT SEND CASH! Make check or money order payable to RTD. Send to Recreation Department, Location 32, via company mail or to Diane Delaney, 425 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, 90013. Tickets are also available directly from Betty Sconce in the Employee Relations Department, 6th Floor of headquarters building.



25 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

MCL buys ARTS for \$150,000

(Editor's note: This is the first in an occasional series of articles looking back at the top stories of a quarter century ago in the Los Angeles transit industry).

The top story for public transportation in Los Angeles during August, 1954, was the acquisition of the Glendale-based Asbury Rapid Transit System (ARTS) by Metropolitan Coach Lines (MCL) for \$150,000. The transfer of assets took place August 3 at Metro's headquarters, 610 S. Main Street, Los Angeles.

MCL, just under one-year-old at the time, added ARTS' 17 routes, 140 route miles and 98 coaches to its growing fleet of 814 coaches and 2,000 employees. All 140 ARTS employees remained on their jobs with the exception of general officers.

One of the higher-ranking Asbury employees who continued at his job was ARTS' Assistant Manager of Operations John S. Wilkens, presently RTD's Manager of Employee Relations.

Among the benefits of MCL's acquisition of Asbury Lines was the important factor of "improving service in the rapidly growing San Fernando Valley, scene of its principal operations."

In other stories that month, Metro's program for improved transportation was in the spotlight at California Public Utilities Commission hearings to study the proposed changeover from street car to motor coach operations on the Long Beach, San Pedro,

Bellflower and Watts lines. As Metro president Jerry L. Haugh told the commission, "The savings is very substantial and will help materially in providing the riding public with a modern type of equipment, more frequent schedules and, in general, a greatly improved service."

Because of the loss of a private right of way, due to surface streets crossing surface tracks, the speed of the interurban trains was slowed to the point where buses were faster and provided better service.

At the same time, Metropolitan Coach Lines joined with the city's other major carrier, Los Angeles Transit Lines, to request authority from CPUC for a two-cent increase in Los Angeles local zone fares. Both properties filed a joint application asking for a raise from 15 to 17 cents and a boost from five to six cents for each additional fare zone. The application was filed jointly because of joint fare and transfer arrangements between the two agencies.

On August 11, MCL president Haugh told a Citizens Traffic and Transit Committee meeting in Mayor Norris Poulson's office, "By making the change to buses (from street cars) now while there is a sufficient number of passengers available to justify an attractive service, we are certain that the downward trend in traffic volume can be checked or at least retarded. Any extended delay in making the proposed change will have the effect of further depleting the service and bringing

closer the day when the passenger volume on the lines cannot justify an attractive service. In this regard, it is later than some think."

In other news of the month, O.A. Smith, under whose guidance the iron wheels of the Pacific Electric passenger system began to turn into rubber tires to keep pace with the times, retired as President of Pacific Electric Railway and Assistant to the President of the Southern Pacific Company.

Elsewhere, in modernizing MCL operations, a pilot program was begun to have paychecks processed by IBM tabulating machines instead of regular check-writing machines. Also, manually operated PBX switchboards were replaced with an in-house direct dial system so employees could make calls to each other without going through a switchboard operator.

Finally, in an article by Stuart Mill Bate, Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Traffic Association, it was suggested that "express bus service on freeways was the logical answer to the automobile-created traffic conditions of the foreseeable future."

(Source: Metropolitan Coach News, published bi-monthly by Metropolitan Coach Lines for employees and their families. Volume 1, Number 5. W. Warren Silliman, Jr., editor. Room 617, Pacific Electric Building, 610 South Main Street, L.A.)



Her
best foot
forward

Gail Kiuchi, a junior at Art Center College of Design, proudly displays the \$1,000 first prize check in front of her winning entry in the First Annual Transit Advertising Design Competition. Co-sponsored by RTD and Transit Ads, Inc., the contest theme was to show "Benefits of using public transit." Ms. Kiuchi's design has been applied to the sides of 15 District buses and will be displayed for the remainder of the summer. The contest was judged by a panel of advertising and marketing executives from such companies as Pepsi-Cola, Walt Disney Enterprises, Continental Airlines, Denny's Restaurants, Atlantic Richfield Corporation and included RTD Manager of Planning and Marketing George McDonald.

Who gets it?

Who gets what in the event of your death? Several deaths have occurred recently among District employees and retirees with the designated beneficiary either deceased, divorced or unable to be found.

Long court battles and substantial delays in the payment of the claim can result if the designation of beneficiary is not up to date.

Have you checked the beneficiary designation on your group life insurance lately? Call Lucille Torres in the Personnel Department, extension 6381, for further information.

Hotline

If you have a question, suggestion or constructive criticism about District operations that you want to express directly to management, the Employee Hotline may be just the thing for you.

The number to call is 972-6683. You leave a recorded message and, while identifying yourself is not required, if you want a reply to your question or suggestion you leave your name and work location.

HEADWAY

Published monthly for the employees and retirees of the Southern California Rapid Transit District.

Editorial input and suggestions welcome. Deadline for receipt of editorial copy is the 14th of each month. Send black-and-white photographs only, please. Requests for photographic coverage of District events must be preceded by 72 hours notice.

Mailing address: Headway, 6th Floor, 425 South Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013. Telephone: 213-972-6680.

David Himmel, Editor

Southern California Rapid Transit District
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