

### **Board Approval Needed**

## **MTA Expects to Buy 188 Vehicles for Agency's Non-Revenue Fleet**



Service Attendant Rachel Cortez of Division 4 cleans the windshield of a non-revenue car in the Headquarters vehicle pool.

(Jan. 5) Over the next several months, the MTA expects to buy 188 new non-revenue vehicles -- the first group in a five-year program to replace cars and trucks that were purchased in the mid-1980s.

If the \$3.7 million purchase plan is approved by the MTA Board, the order will include 50 sedans, 30 passenger mini-vans, 29 pickup trucks and a variety of other vehicles. Most of the vehicles, which could begin arriving in May, will be parceled out among the bus and rail operating divisions.

### **Last big purchase in 1992**

"Because we haven't bought a large group of vehicles since 1992, we're trying to make sure everyone gets a portion of the purchase," said Rich Morton, superintendent, Equipment Maintenance. The agency plans to buy about 260 vehicles and such miscellaneous equipment as air compressors and generators each year of the five-year program.

**This year's purchase will add a new type of vehicle to the MTA's non-revenue fleet. As an experiment, the agency will buy 18 mini-pickup trucks for use as bus operator relief vehicles. The trucks are less expensive and easier to maintain than the cars currently used for operator relief, Morton said.**

**Each division will receive at least one of the mini-pickups. The three-passenger, four-cylinder trucks will have automatic shifts, power steering, air conditioning and radios. They also will be useful for running division errands and carrying light cargo loads.**

### **Assignment of vehicles**

**Many of the new sedans will be assigned to employees who are on 24-hour call, while others will be assigned to car pools at the operating divisions, the Regional Rebuild Center and at Headquarters. Each division should receive at least two new sedans. Some of the 1996-97 model sedans will be re-assigned to the divisions as operator relief cars.**

**The non-revenue vehicle order also will include 23 full-sized cargo vans, 20 utility body trucks, seven full-sized passenger vans, four stakebed trucks, three cargo mini-vans, two bus wreckers, a suburban-style van and a vault truck.**

**The MTA non-revenue fleet numbers approximately 900 vehicles, including cars, trucks and large and small forklifts.**

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