



**At a Monday afternoon news conference,** Chief Operating Officer Allan Lipsky urged MTA unions to return to the bargaining table. PHOTO BY BILL HEARD

## **More Bargaining Talks Scheduled; Labor Federation Sets 'Strike Sanctions'**

**UPDATE** (Sept. 11) Bargaining talks were scheduled Monday between MTA negotiators and leaders of the UTU and ATU, but were not expected to get under way until after an early afternoon news conference called by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor.

At the media event, the Federation - which represents 350 unions with a total of 800,000 members - expressed support for the MTA's unions by granting "strike sanction" to unions not directly involved in the MTA negotiations. Under such sanctions, other unions would be authorized to honor picket lines at MTA locations.

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[statement by MTA Chief Operating Officer Allan Lipsky released during a news conference, Saturday, Sept. 9.](#)

During a news conference at MTA Headquarters, Monday afternoon, Chief Operating Officer Allan Lipsky urged the UTU, ATU and TCU to return to the bargaining table.

### **UTU sets strike date**

The UTU issued a news release, Saturday, Sept. 9, announcing that "a strike date has been set for 12:01 a.m. on Friday," Sept. 15.

Attorneys for the MTA, in a letter to the UTU, pointed out that a strike any earlier than Saturday, Sept. 16, would violate an earlier announced agreement. Under that agreement, the union had pledged to give the agency and its patrons five business days' notice before a strike.

At a news conference, Saturday, Lipsky challenged the unions to work with the MTA in hammering out an agreement by 5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 13. Lipsky also welcomed the assistance of state mediators in the bargaining process.

Meantime, MTA employees should continue to report to their normal work locations for their usual assignments. The MTA Strike Emergency

Hotline at 213-680-1531 will continue to be periodically updated as new information becomes available.

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