



A.J. Taylor

EDITOR'S NOTE: A retirement party for A. J. Taylor is scheduled, April 21, at Little J's Restaurant, 1119 So. Olive St., Los Angeles. For information, contact Charlene Carr at 922-6218. PHOTO BY MIKE LENSCH

A.J. Taylor to Retire in April

MTA's Most Senior Division Manager

(Jan. 26) A.J. Taylor, the MTA's most senior operating division manager, will retire in April – 30 years to the day after he joined the SCRTD as a bus operator.

Over the years, Taylor, 53, also has worked as a division dispatcher and as an assistant division manager. He has managed divisions 8, 3, 1, 7 and the Arthur Winston Division – twice. He currently is manager at Division 18 for the second time.

"A.J. manages one of the largest and most challenging divisions in the bus system," said Transit Operations Chief Tom Conner. "As our most senior manager, he has served as a

mentor to many here at the MTA."

Many positive contributions

Conner praised Taylor's dedicated service and his "many positive contributions to the MTA," noting that he most recently led the development of a program for accident review procedures and the Bus Transfer Manager program.

A native of San Antonio, Texas, Taylor joined the SCRTD on April 17, 1970, after a four-year enlistment in the Navy during Vietnam.

Taylor's primary motivation is making the Metro Bus system work for the public. "From Day One of my career, I was trained that serving the public is the most important part of our job. We need to offer people an alternate mode of transportation."

He also enjoys daily contact with his fellow division employees.

"Interacting with the bus operators and mechanics is the best part of my job. I can be down when I come to work, but as soon as I start talking to them, I pump up."

So, what comes after retirement for the 53-year-old Taylor?

First, he's going back home to San Antonio to visit his mother, Catherine, who hasn't been in good health lately. Then, he plans to go back to school to study foreign languages. His goal: to become an interpreter in Spanish and, perhaps later, in French and Japanese.

[Back to Bulletin Board](#)