John Roberts Named Acting Head of Bus Transportation

(Feb. 6) John Roberts, a 27-year transit operations veteran who joined the MTA in 1990, has been named acting deputy executive officer, Bus Transportation. He succeeds Dan Ibarra, who retired in January.

John Roberts Previously, Roberts, 46, was a division maintenance superintendent, with responsibility for vehicle maintenance at six divisions. In his 11 years with the MTA, he also served for four years as service operations director at divisions 15 and 9, as equipment maintenance manager for three years at Division 8, and as an equipment maintenance supervisor at divisions 3 and 12.

"I want to focus on bringing transportation and maintenance even closer together," Roberts said. "The two are linked – there's a mutual partnership there."

Prior to joining the MTA, Roberts most recently served as superintendent of operations at the Orange County Transit Authority, directing the operation of a bus division with more than 350 operators.

In his 16 years with OCTA, from his first job as a mechanic, he also held various positions in vehicle maintenance and administration.

A graduate of Pacific Christian College of Fullerton, where he earned a B.S. in management, Roberts also holds an M.S. in organizational management from the University of La Verne. He currently is working on a doctorate in public administration at the University.

Roberts is a native of Lynwood, who grew up in Paramount. He and his wife, Shereé, a pre-school teacher, have three children: Jason, 22, an LA County deputy sheriff; Shawna, 21,a junior; and Chrissy, 19, a sophomore, both at Cal State Long Beach.

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