

Richard Hunt to Succeed Tom Conner in Transit Operations



Richard Hunt

(July 11, 2001) CEO Julian Burke has appointed Richard Hunt acting executive officer, Transit Operations, to succeed Tom Conner, effective July 14. Conner is retiring, Friday, after serving in the post since April 1999.

"While we are all sorry to see Tom Conner leave," said Burke, "we are fortunate to have someone of Richard's ability and experience to take over this critical responsibility. I know all of you will join me in supporting Richard as we continue to build on the many successes of our bus and rail operations."

Hunt, 51, has served as deputy executive officer, Bus Maintenance, for the past six years. Joining the MTA in March 1979, he has held posts in telecommunications, facilities maintenance, technical support and bus maintenance.

"Transit Operations has a great team of managers who work together very effectively," said Conner. "Richard hunt has the experience and ability to lead this team as we continue our progress in improving the performance of our transit system."

HR, Administration changes

Meanwhile, two other executive officers also have announced they will be leaving the MTA.

Ray Inge, executive officer, Human Resources, will become vice president of human resources at Cal Poly, Pomona, a post only six miles from his home. Inge joined the MTA as HR director in July 1995. His last day at the MTA also is July 13.

Frank Cardenas, executive officer, Administration, joined the MTA in August 1996. Previously, he was vice president of the city's Board of Public Works. At the MTA, he first served as chief of staff to the CEO. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he will leave the agency, Aug. 13, to found a law and consulting firm, Cardenas & Associates.

No successors have been announced for either Inge or Cardenas.

Conner, who plans to attend the MTA Board's July meeting, came to the MTA from the city's Bureau of Engineering. He earlier had served as general manager of LADOT, replacing former OCTA executive Jim Reichert, who had filled the job temporarily.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to tell everyone how much I've enjoyed working at the MTA," Conner said. "People are really quite good at their jobs and quite professional. I've appreciated how they've been so helpful to me during these past two years."

Conner said his first order of business after retirement will be "to do some deferred maintenance on the house and to learn my golf swing all over again."

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