

## Successful Start for Snoble, Cutting Workers Comp are Top Goals for Board Chairman Fasana



MTA Board Chairman  
John Fasana

(Aug. 28, 2001) Getting the MTA's new CEO, Roger Snoble, off to a successful start is one of Board Chairman John Fasana's primary goals for the year ahead. In a short address during the August Board meeting, Fasana also said the agency must target reductions in workers compensation costs.

Fasana asked Board members to work "in a collaborative manner to ensure a successful start" for Snoble who is scheduled to take office, Oct. 1, at the MTA.

Noting that the MTA's workers compensation costs are about 40 percent higher than they were last year, Fasana said claims have risen to \$60 million annually. Claims for MTA bus service alone are almost \$8 per service hour. He asked for a cost-cutting plan to be presented to the Board by November.

"I find it hard to believe that, given...the need to provide additional bus, rail and highway capabilities," he said, "that the taxpayers would support an \$8 per service hour workers compensation cost."

Fasana outlined these goals for his term as Board chairman:

- To work with the Board in a collaborative manner to ensure a successful start for Roger Snoble when he comes on board Oct. 1.
- To work with Mayor Hahn and our new board members to provide background and develop their support and understanding for new programs.
- To work with the CEO and the Board to move forward and implement the recently adopted Long-Range Transportation Plan by developing an action plan for the next five years.
- To work with the new CEO to immediately seek ways, including incentives and shared savings, to reduce our spiraling Workers Compensation costs that threaten our ability to implement the MTA's Long-Range Transportation Plan.
- To work with the MTA and our state and federal legislators to seek increased funding for our adopted high-priority projects and for operating assistance. This includes adopting a strategy for increased federal funding in next year's Transportation Equity Act.
- To strengthen the MTA's partnership with the cities. The MTA can do a better job of working with all parties and certainly can benefit from their united support.
- To find ways to increase media awareness of the myriad MTA projects that have been successfully implemented. There are many things the MTA does and does quite well that are quite innovative. We need to get that word out.
- To find ways to increase the business community partnership in supporting MTA's programs and legislative agenda.

Fasana said his specific project goals for the year are:

- To support the CEO's efforts, using the new construction model, to begin construction of the eastern Metro Rail extension.
- To support the CEO's implementation of the Universal Fare System by December 2001.
- To prepare for transfer of the Pasadena Blue Line to the MTA for revenue operation by creating an activation committee of Board members.
- To work collaboratively with officials from the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys and the MTA on resolving and moving forward the Transportation Zone applications.

"I will continue to advocate multi-modal transportation programs to improve mobility for all residents, and for the movement of goods, within our county," Fasana concluded. "And in all our deliberations, solutions will be made with the best interest of our customers and the taxpayers of the county in mind."

[Back to MTA Report](#)