On the Road: OCI Gets a New Home

By AMY HOWELL

(May 8, 2002) For a little over a quarter of a century, the employees of Operations Central Instruction (OCI) called the same place home.

OCI has been headquartered at San Gabriel Valley Division 9 in El Monte since 1977. Now, the San Gabriel Valley service sector office will occupy the site, while OCI settles in on part of the second floor of the Regional Rebuild Center (RRC).

About 20 people helped pack the contents of the original site, said OCI Acting Assistant Manager Demetrius Jones. "It took us about five days to pack."

"There goes my office," he joked, as Bekins movers loaded furniture, boxes and other contents into a large truck last Friday. Movers also were on hand at the RRC to unload the nine truckloads.

Although OCI will share space with Facilities Maintenance and ITS, instructors will have the use of six newly reconstructed classrooms that will accommodate up to 30 students each.

No more lunch wagons

The new quarters also will provide nine offices to be shared by OCI's 19 instructors. They previously worked in a large common room. And, instead of eating from a lunch wagon, students and instructors will have access to hot lunches in the RRC cafeteria.



^ OCI Acting Assistant Manager Demetrius Jones, right, and Instructor Jorge Galvan doublecheck packed boxes in Jones' office.



^ Myriad OCI instructional signs are prepped for moving.



^ Bekins movers load furniture, boxes and other OCI contents into a large truck.

"It's an upgrade," said Jones, who coordinated the move.

The 21 buses and the three mechanics assigned to OCI also have made the move to the RRC.

Among the benefits of moving OCI from its remote location in El Monte is the more central location at the RRC.

"It'll be easier for the students and staff to get here," said Jones. "Half of our instructors can now take Metrolink to work."

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