

APTA Committee Tasked with Developing Rail Standards

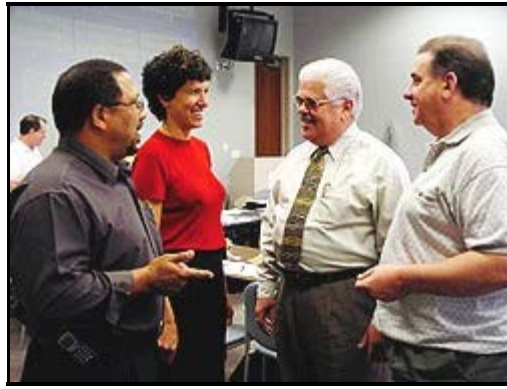
- **Meeting held at MTA**

(May 14, 2002) Tasked by the federal government to help improve rail operations safety, 25 members of the American Public Transportation Association's Rail Standards Committee wrapped up two days of meetings, Tuesday, at the MTA.

The committee's aim, says MTA Rail Transportation Director Jess Diaz, is to "standardize procedures and rules so that all properties – heavy rail, light rail, commuter rail lines – are operating in the same manner."

In addition to its concern with operating procedures, the committee investigates and reviews accidents. Establishing nationwide accident investigation guidelines, Diaz says, will help ensure that accidents are properly and thoroughly investigated whether they involve large or small rail operations.

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Taking a break from their work on APTA's Rail Standards Committee are, from left, Austin Jenkins of Santa Clarita Valley Transportation; Lisa Mancini of San Francisco Municipal Railway; Jess Diaz, the MTA's director of Rail Transportation; and Pete Tereschuck of San Diego Trolley, Inc.