

Procurement's Rudy LeFlore Named Chair of APTA Subcommittee

By DAVID VILA

(May 31, 2002) Rudy LeFlore, director of MTA Procurement Process Quality, has been named chair of a new APTA subcommittee, the Procurement Efficiency Working Group.



Rudy LeFlore will chair APTA's Procurement Efficiency Working Group.

The new subcommittee was created at the most recent APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference, held in Minnesota. The MTA's Procurement and Material Management department initiated the idea earlier this year and invited 22 of the nation's top transit agencies to participate in forming the subcommittee.

Some of the goals discussed during a meeting in Los Angeles included developing common performance measurements, identifying successful practices of streamlining procurement operations, and developing tools to improve procurement and selling practices in the transit industry.

"There are a number of private sector innovations that can be implemented by transit agencies to the benefit of the public," says LeFlore. "This forum will help us ensure we focus as an industry on preserving our supply base, reducing the cost of our services and focusing on the value that we bring to our respective agencies."

The subcommittee will analyze successful business practices to develop recommendations for a more streamlined and cost-effective procurement process for the transit industry. Its first report is expected by the end of this year.

Other committee members include representatives from transit agencies in Houston, Philadelphia, Minneapolis, New York City, St. Louis, Dallas and Washington D.C.

LeFlore joined the MTA in 1998. He was chosen to chair the new subcommittee because of his strong background in private sector procurement efficiencies. He was previously the senior manager of Purchasing at Boeing, where his division received the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Quality Excellence Award.

He also was senior manager of Operations and Integration in the Employee Involvement Office at Boeing, where he was responsible for deployment of high performance work systems and self-directed work teams.

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