

Deputy CEO John Catoe presents a commemorative Metro route sign to outgoing Board Chairman Hal Bernson.



PHOTO BY BILL HEARD

## Yaroslavsky to Take Reins as Board Chairman; Roberts and Hahn are Vice Chairs

By ED SCANNELL

(June 26, 2003) Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky will become MTA Board chairman beginning July 1, succeeding Councilman Hal Bernson who is completing his term as chairman at Thursday's Board meeting.

Yaroslavsky, who has served as 1st vice chair since July 2002, was elected chairman, Thursday, to serve as chairman for a one-year term. Lancaster Mayor Frank Roberts was elected to succeed Yaroslavsky as the Board's 1st vice chair. Mayor James Hahn was elected 2nd vice chair.



Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky becomes Board chairman, July 1.

"How to improve mobility in our region is our most daunting challenge," said Yaroslavsky. "My top priorities will be figuring out the most effective transit solutions for Los Angeles County, increasing our available funding, and guiding MTA through what I hope will be a year of great promise and achievement."

Yaroslavsky represents Los Angeles County's Third Supervisorial District, which comprises much of the City of Los Angeles including the San Fernando Valley, Hollywood and Los Feliz, the Wilshire corridor and West Los Angeles.

His district also includes the cities of Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, Santa Monica, Malibu, Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village and San Fernando; and unincorporated areas including Topanga and the Santa Monica Mountains.

### Former city councilman

Yaroslavsky formerly served on the Los Angeles City Council. He was first elected in 1975 and was subsequently re-elected in 1977, 1981, 1985, 1989 and 1993. He was elected to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in June 1994 and was re-elected twice, most

recently on March 5, 2002.

Yaroslavsky will take the gavel from outgoing Chairman Hal Bernson, who also is finishing his final term as a Los Angeles city councilman.

Highlights of Bernson's tenure included groundbreaking for construction of the San Fernando Valley Metro Rapidway, introduction of the Regional EZpass and expansion of the Metro Rapid bus program.

"Hal Bernson has worn many hats during his 24 years of public service," said Yaroslavsky. "We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts on behalf of the city and county of Los Angeles, Metrolink, Southern California Association of Governments and MTA."

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