Leadership Continuity is Goal of Division Manager Changes

- 3 Division Transportation Managers Rotated
- Catoe Names 3 Operations Executives

By BILL HEARD, Editor

(July 11, 2003) A series of division management changes announced last week is primarily aimed at ensuring continuity of leadership, says San Fernando Valley General Manager David Armijo.

Armijo, who has been given temporary responsibility for the Westside/Central service sector, shifted three division transportation managers and named two acting transportation managers and an acting maintenance manager.

"These changes have been made with a lot of input from other general managers, as well as from the staff," said Armijo. "I want to build continuity and let the team build upon itself. Success will follow."

Meanwhile, Deputy CEO John Catoe has announced an operations staff reorganization that will give new responsibilities to Carolyn Flowers, Alex Clifford and Andrea Burnside.

Armijo said Karl Downs, who was transportation manager at San Fernando Valley's Division 15, has moved to the Westside/Central sector's Division 10 to replace Transportation Manager Tom Jasmin, who will lead Bus Operations Control.

Armijo named Pat Orr as Division 10's acting maintenance manager, to succeed the retiring Rick Hittinger.

Myers moves to Division 15

West Valley Division 8 Transportation Manager Grant Myers has moved to East Valley Division 15, leaving Maria Reynolds as acting transportation manager at Division 8.

Johnny Lindsey, who has served as assistant transportation manager at West Hollywood Division 7, now heads transportation as assistant manager at Venice Division 6. Bruce Buck will continue as assistant maintenance manager at Division 6.

Until recently, Division 6 operated as a satellite of Division 7, but Armijo said both Lindsey and Buck now report directly to him. MTA is working with a developer who wants to build a new division for the agency in exchange for the valuable Venice division property.

Two division transportation managers had been appointed in June to replace managers who retired. Jim McElroy succeeded Ron Reedy at Division 7, while Mike Greenwood succeeded Mace Bethel at San Gabriel Valley Division 9.

Executive level appointments

At the executive level, Catoe has appointed Carolyn Flowers executive officer, Operations Administration. She is responsible for operations finance, the LASD contract, operations manpower and service development.

Alex Clifford was named managing director of On-Street Support and will be responsible for Bus Operations Control, the Regional Rebuild Center and New Technology.

Andrea Burnside was named managing director for Safety, Training and Board Reports. She will oversee Operations Central Instruction, the Safety Department and preparation of operations reports to the MTA Board.

"The purpose of these changes is to focus clearly on improving key elements of our operations," Catoe said. "It allows the general to concentrate purely on sector operations."

Earlier this year, Metro Rail General Manager Gerald Francis also rotated a number of transportation managers, shifting Rita Malone from the Metro Red Line to the Metro Blue Line. She was replaced by Eugene Adams, who had been transportation manager of the Metro Green Line.

Duane Martin rotated from transportation manager of the Metro Blue Line to head the Rail Operations Center, replacing Hector Guerrero, who is now transportation manager of the Metro Green Line. Roman Alarcon, an assistant manager at the Metro Red Line, was named transportation manager at the Metro Gold Line.

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