

## Gold Line Construction Chief Will Head MTA Project Management

By ED SCANNELL

(Sept. 9, 2003) CEO Roger Snoble today announced the hiring of Rick Thorpe, one of the most highly regarded builders of light rail systems in the United States, as executive officer for MTA project management.

Thorpe has served as chief executive officer for the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Construction Authority since October 1999.

He has notified the Authority's board regarding his plans and will officially begin his duties at MTA within 60 days.



Rick Thorpe

"Rick will be a tremendous asset to MTA and to our future construction efforts," said Snoble. "He brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record that will ensure timely delivery of projects as we expand the Metro bus and rail systems in the coming years."



Rick Thorpe, right, celebrates opening of the Metro Gold Line with CEO Roger Snoble at dedication ceremonies on July 25.

As executive officer for MTA project management, Thorpe will be responsible for oversight of the 14-mile San Fernando Valley Metro Rapidway, which is now under construction and will open in August 2005.

Other projects will include the Eastside Light Rail Project, a six-mile extension of the Metro Gold Line.

Thorpe comes to MTA following the opening of the Metro Gold Line, which he successfully

completed on time and under budget.

### 'A proven record'

"While I am very disappointed at Rick Thorpe's departure as CEO, I can say without reservation that our loss will be MTA's gain," said LA City Councilman Ed P. Reyes, chairman of the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Construction Authority. "Rick has a proven record of delivering quality projects on time and on budget. Residents of Greater Los Angeles should feel very lucky in having Rick Thorpe as MTA's new project management chief."

Thorpe's prior experience includes serving as the program manager for the \$312 million Salt Lake City light rail project (TRAX) and as director of engineering and construction for the San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB).

His duties at MTDB included oversight of a \$1 billion rail and bus

capital improvement program, which included the design and construction of six separate light rail extensions.

A registered professional civil engineer in California and Utah, Thorpe holds bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from San Diego State University. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Public Transportation Association, serving on the light rail and construction management subcommittees.

Thorpe has also authored numerous publications on light rail design and construction.

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