

CEO Roger Snoble responds to inquiries at morning media briefing.



PHOTO: BILL HEARD

Snoble Encouraged by Resumption of Talks with ATU

- **CEO announces Metro School Pool at media briefing.**

(Oct. 22, 2003) With negotiations between MTA and the ATU scheduled at 1:30 p.m., today, CEO Roger Snoble says he is encouraged by the resumption of talks with the mechanics' union.

During a morning media briefing at MTA Headquarters, the CEO said he's hopeful the momentum will build toward a contract settlement.

He added that, although the emphasis in the labor talks has now shifted to the ATU, MTA may be closer to agreement with the UTU, representing bus and rail operators.

The CEO used the media briefing to announce the School Pool Program – an addition to MTA's Rideshare Program.

The School Pool program will have an exclusive database of families interested in forming or joining a car- or vanpool at specific campuses within LA County.

Metro Commute Services, MTA's rideshare group, is in the process of identifying and contacting school districts and schools in Los Angeles County. A hotline (922-2811) will be active as of Thursday, Oct. 23.

During the media briefing, Snoble said Caltrans studies show that local freeway traffic has increased by about 2 percent, causing a 5 mph to 10 mph reduction in freeway speeds. LADOT reported a 4 percent to 6 percent increase in traffic at intersections during the first week of the strike.

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