

[Metro.net](#) (web)**Resources**▶ [Safety](#)▶ [Pressroom](#) (web)▶ [CEO Hotline](#)▶ [Metro Projects](#)▶ [Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)▶ [Archives](#)▶ [Events Calendar](#)▶ [Research Center/
Library](#)▶ [Metro Cafe](#) (pdf)▶ [Metro Classifieds](#)▶ [Retirement
Round-up](#)**Metro Info**▶ [Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)▶ [Org Chart](#) (pdf)▶ [Policies](#)▶ [Training](#)▶ [Help Desk](#)▶ [Intranet Policy](#)**Need e-Help?**Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357[E-Mail Webmaster](#)

While MTA's most senior employee was getting a standing ovation at the presentation of an official commendation for 70 years on the job, MTA Board Members joined Arthur Winston at the podium for a heartfelt and spontaneous round of good cheer. Pictured, from left, are directors Mike Antonovich, Frank Roberts, Pam O'Connor, Arthur Winston, Zev Yaroslavsky, Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Antonio Villaraigosa, Tom LaBonge, Martin Ludlow, Don Knabe, Beatrice Proo and John Fasana.



PHOTO BY ROXANNE TAN

Board Congratulates 70-Year Employee Arthur Winston

In other actions:

- [Requests MTA cost-cutting scenarios](#)
- [Approves UTU labor agreement](#)
- [Names ad hoc labor task force](#)
- [Designates Metro Orange Line](#)
- [Approves MTA cleanliness policy](#)
- [Restores Alameda Corridor East funds](#)

(Jan. 22, 2004) With 70 years on the job and still counting, MTA's most senior employee – Arthur Winston – received the formal congratulations and “sincere thanks” of the Board of Directors at Thursday's meeting.

South Bay Sector General Manager Dana Coffey, reciting the 97-year-old Winston's accomplishments and longevity, dubbed him “our Number One employee” and MTA's “Bob Hope.” She compared his endurance to the “Incredible Hulk.”

The Board unanimously approved a resolution recognizing Winston for his "inspiration, professionalism and unprecedented commitment to transit, his fellow workers in his crew, division, sector and the agency."

Afterward, the members all gathered at Winston's side to shake his hand and wish him well.

"I appreciate the job," Winston said. "I love it." He will celebrate his 98th birthday, March 22.

In other business, the Board:

Cost-Cutting, Item 40: Approved a motion directing the MTA staff to develop for Board consideration three cost-cutting scenarios for across-the-board cuts of at least 5 percent, 10 percent and 15 percent for every MTA department.

The motion notes that MTA has been "hard hit recently by state and federal actions which have reduced anticipated revenue for many MTA projects." The motion said it is "incumbent upon the MTA to cut costs and reduce spending across the board to reflect this dire fiscal situation."

UTU Labor Agreement, Item 38: Approved a three-year labor agreement between MTA and the United Transportation Union, representing bus and train operators. The agreement, which took effect July 1, 2003 will continue through June 30, 2006.

Labor Task Force: Board Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky appointed an "ad hoc labor task force" to determine ways to avoid future transit strikes. Members of the task force are directors John Fasana, Gloria Molina and Antonio Villaraigosa.

Metro Orange Line, Item 39: The Board voted unanimously to designate the San Fernando Valley Metro Rapidway as the Metro Orange Line. The 14-mile dedicated busway, which will connect the North Hollywood Metro Rail station and Warner Center, is currently under construction.

The motion by Yaroslavsky said giving transit lines color designations "helps in the marketing and promotion" of the line and "helps communities and neighborhoods identify with the line and fosters linkage between the line and the rest of the transit network."

The motion also noted that the San Fernando Valley once was "home to many orange groves" and that many orange trees still can be found in the Valley.

MTA Cleanliness Policy, Item 36: Approved MTA's "first formal" Cleanliness Policy. With the intent of improving Metro customers' quality of life, the seven elements of the proposed policy include maintaining a high level of cleanliness, developing cleanliness procedures and a "stringent vehicle inspection" program for the bus and rail fleet, cooperation with law enforcement and a community education program.

"Today's Board action underscores the MTA's commitment to be a regional leader on this issue by aggressively stamping out all forms of graffiti and vandalism...for the comfort and safety of our passengers," said Yaroslavsky.

Alameda Corridor East, Item 41: The Board voted to restore funding to the Alameda Corridor East project by directing the CEO to "rescind the

Board action" taken at the December, 2003 meeting.

At the December meeting, the Board designated the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension as its highest priority rail project and included MTA's 17 percent Alameda Corridor East contribution in a contingency fund for the light-rail project.

With Thursday's vote, MTA funds will once again be made available to support the Alameda Corridor East project.

| [Home](#) | [Phone Directory](#) | [Forms Online](#) | [FIS Online](#)