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[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](#)

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[Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)

[Org Chart](#) (pdf)

[Policies](#)
[Training](#)
[Help Desk](#)
[Intranet Policy](#)

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Celebrating the San Fernando Valley Governance Council's first anniversary are, from left, council members Jesus Ochoa, Bart Reed and Brad Rosenheim, Service Sector staffers Teresa Yung and John Roberts, and Council Member Kymberleigh Richards.



PHOTO BY ERIC RAPP

## SFV Governance Council Celebrates First Anniversary

By ERIC RAPP

(April 16, 2004) Metro San Fernando Valley's Governance Council celebrated its one-year anniversary, April 7, with a traditional birthday cake.

After a year of getting their feet wet, council members feel good about what they have accomplished so far.

"We've accomplished quite a bit in our first year," said Chairman Coby King. "The Council has worked hard to improve transit service in the Valley by eliminating duplicative service and increasing service where needed. At the same time, we are getting up to speed on the details of this complex transit agency."

"I'm looking forward to another year of working with the public, the staff, and the rest of the Council in making sure the transit system in the Valley best serves Valley residents," he added.

### 'An excellent job listening'

San Fernando Valley General Manager David Armijo agreed that the governance council has been hard at work. "The council has done an excellent job listening to and addressing the concerns of MTA transit patrons."

One member of the public who chose to speak at the April 7 meeting, Sheldon Walters of North Hollywood, gave the council a "A grade, so far."

King and other council members also recognized the hard work of the San Fernando Valley staff over the year of the Governance Council's existence.

"Metro San Fernando Valley staff has been very helpful to me personally and to all the council members, and they should be commended," said Council Member Jesus Ochoa.

"If anything," Ochoa said, "the first year is the most challenging, and staff made ours a memorable one."

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