

[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](#)

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[E-Mail Webmaster](#)


Division 6 operators Kim Lakey, Brian Pittman and Izetta Gray enjoy a morning snack in celebration of the team's safety achievement.

Division 6 Operators Go 180 Days without a Lost-Time Injury

(March 30, 2005) Despite dangerous, storm-related road conditions that plagued bus operations, recently, Venice Division 6 operators managed to stay safe – completing 180 days without a single lost-time injury.



Assistant Division Manager Alva Carrasco greeted the transportation team, Wednesday morning, with coffee and pastries in appreciation for their safety achievement.

Over the past year, the transportation division has significantly reduced the number of Worker's Compensation cases and Cal OSHA recordables. In 2003, the division reported 20 Cal OSHA recordables. In 2004, Cal OSHA recordables dropped

Operator Lynette Simpson goes for a coffee fillup before her morning run out of Division 6.

to 6 cases. Recordable injuries are those that require medical treatment.

"I'd like to commend the whole team at Division 6," said sector General Manager David Armijo. "This is a tremendous accomplishment and shows that we really can make a difference, even in some of the most congested areas of Los Angeles."

Division 6's 95 operators are assigned to some of Metro's busiest bus routes, providing service on Wilshire, Venice and Santa Monica boulevards and making the sometimes hazardous runs out Pacific Coast Highway to Malibu and beyond.

So, how did they do it?

"A lot of it is more awareness of safety," says Carrasco. "We hold regular safety rap sessions and monthly meetings where safety is an important topic. We also post a safety 'Quote of the Week.'"

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