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PHOTO BY RICH MORALLO

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Metro's Citizens' Advisory **Committee Chair Wants More** Members

By RICH MORALLO

(Sept. 7, 2005) Roger Christensen's job keeps him busy on evenings and weekends. "That's when I manage a theater in Hollywood."

Christensen's movie inventory, budget and staffing keep him engaged, but he still has free time during the day, an opportunity he has taken to get involved with transit.



Citizens' Advisory Committee Chairman Roger Christensen and Metro CEO Roger Snoble

"I started attending Metro's Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) meetings in the '90s because I wanted to learn more about the subway," says Christensen. "I remember those meetings as the best way to secure hard facts and to get an education in transit."

Christensen is the newly-elected chair of the CAC. The advisory unit was created in 1992 when Metro was formed with the merger of the LACTC and the SCRTD.

CAC assists the Board

"The Citizens' Advisory Group basically gathers information and assists the Board in matters of interest to transit and the community," he says. Each Board director can nominate four public members to the group.

At the August 25 Board meeting, during CEO Roger Snoble 's report, Christensen asked the Board to appoint new members to the CAC, which currently has 19 members and holds two meetings a month.

"The CAC, by legislation, should reflect a broad spectrum of interest and all geographic areas of the county," explained Christensen.

In an effort to promote the CAC, he plans to send out news releases about CAC activities and use industry, community and email contacts to spread the word in the public.

"I'd like to see the CAC more closely involved in Board issues and conduct a major outreach for new members," says Christensen. "The life blood of the CAC is its membership."

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