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Rosemarie Cendejas enjoys a "Betty Boop" cake at her retirement party March 31. The party capped 37 years of service to Metro.



Rosemarie Cendejas is Leaving a 'Family' Behind at Retirement

- After 37 years on the job, it's her second retirement

By Reina V. Slutske

(April 7, 2006) Transportation Operations Supervisor Rosemarie Cendejas feels like she's leaving her extended family.

"We work day in and day out together," she says. "And I always try to work with them when they need help."

After 37 years of working for SCRTD and Metro, Cendejas retired March 31. She joined SCRTD in 1968, not long after she took her sister, who was just out of school, to an employment agency.

"She comes running out and says, 'They have a job for you,'" Cendejas recalls. "And I said, 'Well, I already have a job.' But she said, 'But this is better.'"

At the time, Cendejas was working at Transformer Engineers in San Gabriel. She had previous work experience with the phone company, and so at SCRTD, she went into Customer Information.

She came in the day they asked her to, and was hired right away. In that job, which lasted 30 years, she advanced to senior communications officer and was a Customer Information supervisor.

Worked in HR

Cendejas retired in August 1998, but returned to Metro in April 1999 to take a temporary position as an office supervisor in Human

Relations. The following April, she was hired as a transportation division dispatcher at Central City Division 1.

In that job, she helped maintain schedules for all the operators, and worked behind the counter for eight hours. However, this caused some health problems and she developed a leg injury.

"It won't heal completely until I get off my feet," she says. "So I can't do that standing behind a window eight hours a day."

In retirement from her final position as a transportation operations supervisor, Cendejas plans to develop a schedule, including time to help raise her 3-year-old granddaughter, Juliann.

And, although she is leaving her "extended family" at Division 1, she is going to spend some quality time with her real family, including a trip with her sisters to the Mexican Riviera.