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CEO UpDate

A Parting, A Welcome and A Word About the Election

- **And, congratulations to the Arthur Winston Division**

By CEO ROGER SNOBLE



CEO Roger Snoble

I want to begin this month's column by congratulating our deputy CEO, John Catoe, on being selected as general manager of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. It's a tremendous opportunity for him and I wish him well.

But, after five eventful years with him by my side here at Metro, I also will feel his loss – as I'm sure many of you will. I won't recount here all of John's accomplishments, but they include initiating the service sector organization, overseeing major improvements in bus and rail service, setting a course for Metro Connections, and the successful conclusion of this year's labor negotiations.

In Washington, John will have an opportunity to put his stamp on one of the nation's high-profile transit agencies. WMATA is known as an outstanding transit system, and I'm sure they'll strive for even greater excellence under John's guidance. Let's all wish him the best of luck!

I also want to welcome Carolyn Flowers as the acting Chief Operating Officer. She will ensure that we'll have a smooth transition without missing a beat.

Carolyn has wide experience in many areas of administration, finance, management and procurement, both here at Metro and in private industry. She also has a solid foundation in transit operations. She has served as executive officer for Operations Administration since 2003, and she received intensive transportation leadership training through the APTA and Eno Foundation programs.

I look forward to working with Carolyn, and ask that all of you give her your support.

A quick word about the recent election. We can take pleasure in the wide margins by which voters approved three measures we needed to keep us moving forward – Propositions 1A, 1B and 1C.

Passage of Prop 1A means that we can depend on a steady flow of funds from the tax on gasoline sales, year after year, without worrying that the state will take the money to finance operating expenses. This

proposition makes it very difficult for the state to borrow that money, and it ensures that, when it is borrowed, it is paid back with interest within three years.

Prop 1B is important to us because it not only provides \$12.25 billion in bond funding for highway improvements, but also includes bonding of \$4 billion for bus and rail transit programs. Even Prop 1C, which primarily concerns housing, encourages transit-oriented development.

Along with Caltrans, we've already have identified several urgent, ready-to-go transportation improvements that could be eligible for immediate funding.

I want to close by congratulating the maintenance team at the Arthur Winston Division. They recently celebrated two years without a lost-time accident. That's a great achievement and I'm very proud of all the mechanics, service attendants, support staff and managers for their great safety record. I know Arthur would be proud, too!

Have a happy Thanksgiving!

November 17, 2006

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