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Metro's Marion Colston, president of COMTO's Southern California Regional Chapter, honors LADOT General Manager Gloria Jeff at meeting held at Metro Headquarters.



Photos by Gayle Anderson

Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) holds Holiday Membership Meeting at Metro Headquarters

- LADOT General Manager Gloria Jeff is featured speaker

By HELEN ORTIZ

(Dec. 14, 2006) The Southern California Regional Chapter of COMTO, the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials, held a festive Holiday Membership meeting Monday, Dec. 11.

LADOT General Manager Gloria J. Jeff, the featured speaker, invoked the spirit of Rosa Parks to deliver an impassioned speech on the vital role diversity plays in the transportation industry.

"COMTO is a unique organization because of its diverse membership," she said. "It brings urban experiences and diverse skills sets together, which are two distinct set of voices that are not normally heard at the same time."



Metro CEO Roger Snoble and Acting Chief Operating Officer Carolyn Flowers each received certificates of special recognition for their leadership, support and commitment to COMTO.

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"I am very pleased with the great amount of interest shown here tonight, and it is a good start to grow the local chapter of COMTO," said CEO Snoble. "I am excited to be part of this great organization."

Also honored with special recognition was Carolyn Flowers. "COMTO is an organization that promotes diversity and gives transportation professionals at every level an opportunity to be involved in transportation solutions," she said.



Metro's Marion Jane Colston, at far right, serves as president of COMTO's Southern California Regional Chapter. Members include, from left, Velma Marshall, Linda Wright, Kathie Brabson (LTK Engineering Services), Jeanette Bell, CEO Snoble, Dana Coffey, Myrine White. Linda Somilleda (Foothill Transit) and Marion Colston.

Metro's Marion Jane Colston serves as president of COMTO's Southern California Regional Chapter. "COMTO offers many opportunities for transportation professionals in the Southern California region, who come from diverse backgrounds to blend their individual talents to address multi-modal transportation issues," she said.

Founded in 1971, on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. COMTO was created to provide a forum for senior minority professionals in the transportation industry. Members have served in every sector of the transportation industry to include aviation, highways, ports, rail and trucking.

Today COMTO has chapters in 35 major cities throughout the United States with a membership of over 2000.



Metro in the COMTO spotlight: from left, Linda Wright, Carolyn Flowers, Roger Snoble, Lonnie Mitchell, Marion Colston and Sharad Mulchand.

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