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Retired Operations Planner Joel Woodhull, 70, Died Oct. 24

Operated organic farm, campaigned for transit in Sonoma County

(Nov. 7, 2007) Joel Woodhull, who retired from LACMTA in 1995 after a 22-year career in bus operations planning, died of a major cerebral hemorrhage Oct. 24 in Santa Rosa. He was 70.

A memorial service will be conducted at 2 p.m., Saturday, at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., in Santa Rosa (707-568-5381).

A native of Los Angeles, Woodhull joined the SCRTD in August 1973 and in 1981 was promoted to director of scheduling. In this position, he was responsible for agency's transition from manual schedule making to computerized scheduling.

In 1986, he was named policy analyst manager and was responsible for conducting studies concerning transportation and land use as they affected transit. He retired as technical planning manager.

Organic farmer

Following retirement, Woodhull and his wife, Joan, moved to Sebastopol in Northern California where they operated a nine-acre organic farm -Singing Frog Farm – and raised vegetables and many varieties of organic blueberries and bamboo.

Woodhull served as chairman of the Sonoma County Transportation and Landuse Coalition and was a founding member of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, carrying membership card 001.

He led and supported many efforts to increase public transit and other transportation alternatives in the Sonoma County. The couple moved to Santa Rosa last March.

Woodhull earned bachelors' and masters' degrees in engineering at UCLA and a doctorate in transportation engineering at Renssalaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Joan, and daughters Sara Woodhull of Mountain View and Victoria Anderson of San Carlos, and four grandchildren.

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