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Rail Operations Slates In-house Training Program for RTOS Application Process

(July 30, 2008) In response to the growing demands of an expanding system, the Rail Transportation Department has developed a program, beginning Aug. 8, to aid applicants in the competitive selection process for promotion.

The Rail Transportation Promotional Opportunity Program (RTPOP) was created by a team that includes a director, a manager, two assistant managers and a rail transportation operations supervisor (RTOS).

Their initial focus was to start a recruitment program for the RTOS position and develop brochures and workshops to aid employees with the various stages of the application process.

“We wanted to take an active role in the future of Rail Operations by investing in our employees both current and future,” said Duane Martin, Director of Rail Transportation/ Operations. “It is important that we let our employees know that we are a team and we care about their professional growth.”

Workshops will focus on subjects that help produce a qualified, prepared applicant for an RTOS position. The initial workshops will help participants evaluate scenarios and articulate their actions through the critical thinking process.

“There’s a huge advantage for employees who have been out of the interview/job search process for a time to participate in this workshop,” Martin added. “Being comfortable and confident goes a long way in promoting one’s self.”

Participants will also benefit from other internal and external sources of information pertinent to Rail Operations.

Best from within

The team that developed the program is committed to seeing current Metro employees promote through the organization. Several of the committee members started out as operators themselves, so they’re partial to the benefits of hiring from within.

Esther Pippins and Cristobal Medina, both RTOS’s, will facilitate the August classes. Between them, Medina and Pippins have over 40 years of operational and supervisory experience.

RTPOP Workshops

The second RTPOP workshop is open to any Metro employee, whether a rail employee or not. It’s scheduled for Friday, Aug. 8 from 8 a.m. to noon or 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday, Aug.9 from 7 to 11 a.m. or 12 to 4 p.m., held at Metro Red Line Division 20, room 224, 320 S. Santa Fe Ave., Los Angeles. Employees who are interested in participating on their own time should reserve a spot at one of the sessions by contacting Esther Pippins at 213.922.3213. Space is limited.

