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- Corporate Safely gets annual SHARP safety and health assessment audit underway at Metro Bus divisions
- April tour of bus and rail gives Metro policy makers closer look at Operations



So noted: Donell Harris, Crossroads Division 2 maintenance manager, recruited service attendants Valerie Carter, Antionette Martinez and D'Lisa Palmer to help improve the safety consciousness at the division and heighten the awareness of Injury Illness Prevention Program (IIPP). The success of the program impressed the Corporate Safety team conducting a SHARP audit at Division 2 maintenance on April 20: "This is an excellent example of a 'Best Practice' that will be shared with the Executive Management team and included in the final report."

Corporate Safely gets annual SHARP safety and health assessment audit underway at Metro Bus divisions

Contributed by Robert Torres Systems Safety Manager, Corporate Safety

(April 28, 2009) The annual Safety and Health Assessment Review Program, otherwise referred to as the SHARP audit, officially got underway April 17.

Conducted by Corporate Safety, the SHARP audit is annual internal assessment of Metro's regulatory safety programs required under the California Code of Regulations Title 8, Cal/OSHA, which measures adherence to Corporate Safety's Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP).

This initial assessment is conducted at all bus divisions. A separate SHARP assessment is scheduled later this year for the Rail Operations and Maintenance departments. Henry Ho, Corporate Safety Sr. Safety Specialist, will coordinate the effort, supported by other members of Corporate Safety.

The primary elements of the program that are evaluated during this assessment are communication posting, IIPP documentation, OSHA record keeping compliance, OSHA injury and illness incident rate performance; bus traffic accident performance for bus transportation, and site inspection of Bus Maintenance and Support Services facilities.

The purpose of the SHARP is three-fold: (1) to determine the level of compliance with local, state and federal regulations at each site, (2) to provide Executive Management with a listing of safety issues that are considered systemic in nature, and (3) share accident/incident reduction best practices among the Divisions and be proactive and prepared for an actual OSHA assessment if one were to occur.

The goal of Metro's internal assessment is to assist all sites to be successful in safety performance and to achieve a level of consistency in implementing safety programs.

Check lists and scorecards are developed for each of the major elements in the assessment process and sites are graded with a maximum of 100 points. Each site that receives a score between 81 and 100 points are classified in according to the following 2 tiers:

- Tier 1 departments scoring 91-100 points out of the total 100 points
- Tier 2 departments scoring 81-90 points out of the total 100 points.

To recognize the sectors' safety performance and the employees' efforts, sites achieving a Tier 1 and Tier 2 rating will receive a reward of \$1,500 and \$750 respectively.



The tour included (from left) Mike Sieckert, Planning Manager, GWC Sector; Alex Clifford, General Manager, GWC Sector; Metro Board and Lakewood City Council member Diane DuBois; Julie Moore, Deputy for Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, who also sits on the Metro Board; Karen Heit, Board Deputy for DuBois; Dave Hershenson, Community Relations Manager; Hassan Fahkro, Service Development Manager, GWC Sector; and Regina Chan, Finance & Administration Manager, GWC Sector.

April Tour gives Metro Policy Makers Closer Look at Operations

Contributed by Dave Hershenson Community Relations Manager, Metro Gateway Cities

Metro Board and City of Lakewood Council member Diane DuBois and Julie Moore, Deputy to Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe were given a firsthand look at Metro rail and bus operations by touring a couple of divisions this month.

Rail Operations General Manager Mike Cannell said he was "encouraged" that board members have taken time out of their busy schedules to tour Metro's Red Line Division 20 because "it makes it easier to communicate to the board on critical issues" when they see projects and rail rehabilitation needs up close.

GWC Service Sector General Manager Alex Clifford was equally pleased about accommodating the visitors by providing them with a tour of the Crossroads Depot Division 2 where he provided an in-depth presentation on the personnel and budget.

"They were very pleased with the information we provided," Clifford said calling the visitors real "troopers" for staying focused and interested in all aspects of the tour. The visit concluded at the Metro Gateway Cities' Service Sector office in Downey where a briefing on bus service in the Gateway Cities was provided.

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