



[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

- [Safety](#)
- [Pressroom](#) (web)
- [Ask the CEO](#)
- [CEO Forum](#)
- [Employee Recognition](#)
- [Employee Activities](#)
- [Metro Projects](#)
- [Facts at a Glance](#) (web)
- [Archives](#)
- [Events Calendar](#)
- [Research Center/Library](#)
- [Metro Classifieds](#)

[Bazaar](#)

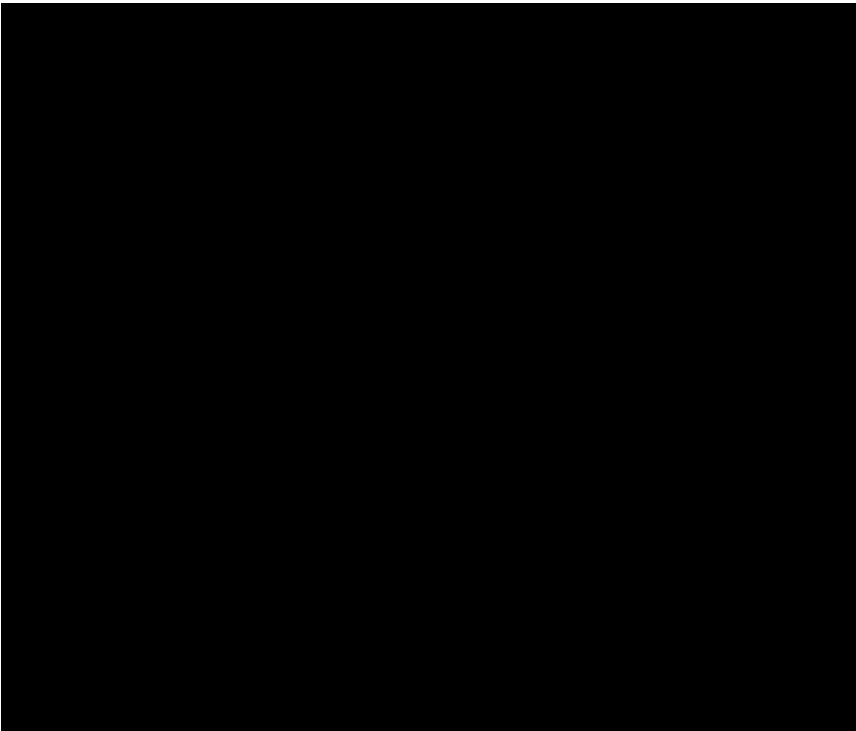
Metro Info

- [30/10 Initiative](#)
- [Policies](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Help Desk](#)
- [Intranet Policy](#)

Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357

[Contact myMetro.net](#)



Video by Rich Morallo. Not hooked up to YouTube at work? Watch at home at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JV9syIKGfBA> NOTE: This YouTube link is being sent to you for the purpose of viewing the Metro video only. Metro employees are subject to the Employee Code of Conduct that generally restricts the use of company time/equipment to conducting Metro business. Please click on icon above to view the video.

On the Job: Metro Bus Rollout at Arthur Winston Division

By Rich Morallo
Community Relations / Volunteer Coordinator

(Jan. 19, 2010) Conducting his safety pre-trip inspection, Rodney Bowers used a flashlight to check the exterior of the orange 40-foot New Flyer bus in the Arthur Winston Division 5 (AWD) yard.

It was just a few minutes after 4 a.m. on Friday but Bowers, in his 30th year with Metro, looked forward to pulling out of the Chesterfield Square Metro bus facility to pick up passengers waiting on the South Los Angeles streets.

"I'm an early morning person," said Bowers, "and today I'm heading out on Line 305 towards the UCLA loop."

This was morning rollout when AWD and the other eight Metro divisions launched their bus fleets before dawn to transport patrons where they need to go in Los Angeles County. By the end of the day patrons will have boarded Metro buses 1.1 million times.

Transportation Operations Supervisor (TOS) June Singleton-Reece, another early morning person, handed out bus assignments to operators arriving

at the dispatch window. "I've been doing this for eight years," said Singleton-Reece, who has 20 years with the agency. During rollout the supervisor gave operators bus line assignments, running board schedules and vehicle locations in the yard as nearly 170 buses rolled out before 7:30 a.m.

"I'm signing on now," announced Martin Gourzong, walking up to the window, while other operators already with their assignments donned their safety vests and headed out to their buses. Some staff such as Cardell Stewart lingered in the operator lounge. As "extra board" operators, Stewart and others fill in the gap when drivers are not able to report for their bus assignments.

Outside in the yard for the past five hours, mechanic Terry Owens patrolled between the parked buses and the maintenance building. As yard master Owens made sure the buses were ready for revenue service. "We check the buses for everything including lights and heating so the operators stay on schedule in leaving the bus division." This morning Owens dispatched a bus with a rear flat to Miguel Garcia, who promptly replaced the 22-inch tire.

Also in the yard were service attendants, such as Tommy Pham, who daily clean, fuel and park the AWD buses, which will tally about 135,000 passenger boardings throughout the day. With the agency for only five months, Pham said he likes working his shift, from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. "Everyone is nice and we all work together," remarked Pham, who slipped on a dust mask before blowing out the debris inside a bus.

Back at the dispatch window Singleton-Reece and another TOS DJ Thompson continued to process operators. "I've known some of these operators for 15 years," said Singleton-Reece. Thompson said she liked interacting with the operators. "We're family-oriented," remarked Thompson.