

# Metro News Pressroom

September 9, 2003

**CONTACT:**

**Ed Scannell/Marc Littman**

MTA MEDIA RELATIONS

(213) 922-2703/922-2700 [www.metro.net/press/pressroom](http://www.metro.net/press/pressroom)

**e-mail:** [mediarelations@metro.net](mailto:mediarelations@metro.net)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MTA Hires 'Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Construction Authority' CEO as Project Management Chief**

(Los Angeles) - MTA CEO Roger Snoble today announced the hiring of Rick Thorpe, one of the most highly regarded builders of light rail systems in the United States, as executive officer for project management. Thorpe comes to MTA following the opening of the Metro Gold Line, which he successfully completed on time and under budget.

[Media: Request 200 dpi digital photo here.](#)



Rick Thorpe

"Rick will be a tremendous asset to MTA and to our future construction efforts," said Snoble. "He brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record that will ensure timely delivery of projects as we expand the Metro bus and rail systems in the coming years."

Thorpe was appointed as chief executive officer for the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Construction Authority in October 1999. He has notified the Authority's board regarding his future plans and will officially begin his duties at MTA within 60 days.

"While I am very disappointed at Rick Thorpe's departure as CEO, I can say without reservation that our loss will be MTA's gain," said Ed P. Reyes, Los Angeles City Councilmember and Chair of the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Construction Authority. "Rick has a proven record of delivering quality projects on time and on budget. Residents of Greater Los Angeles should feel very lucky in having Rick Thorpe as MTA's new project management chief."

Thorpe's prior experience includes serving as the program manager for the \$312 million Salt Lake City light rail project (TRAX) and as director of engineering and construction for the San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB). His duties at MTDB included oversight of a \$1 billion rail and bus capital improvement program, which included the design and construction of six separate light rail extensions.

As MTA executive officer for project management, Thorpe will be responsible for the oversight of the San Fernando Valley Metro Rapidway, a 14-mile cross-Valley busway, which is under construction and will open in August 2005, and the Eastside Light Rail Project, a six-mile extension of the Metro Gold Line.

A registered professional civil engineer in California and Utah, Thorpe holds both bachelor and masters degrees in Civil Engineering from San Diego State University. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Public Transportation Association, serving on the light rail and construction management subcommittees. Thorpe has also authored numerous publications on light rail design and construction.

MTA, the second largest public transportation agency in the United States, provides more than 75% of all public transit services in LA County. It operates the Metro Bus System, which consists of more than 2,000 peak hour buses, which serve a 1,433 square mile area. MTA also operates the 73.1-mile Metro Rail System, which includes the Metro Red Line subway and the Metro Blue, Metro Green and Metro Gold light rail lines.

As the region's primary transportation planner and programmer, MTA also funds such programs as paratransit services, bikeways, street and freeway improvements and the Metro Freeway Service Patrol, which aids stranded highway motorists free of charge.

MTA-137