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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA, Bus and Rail Operators Reach Tentative Contract Agreement

Tentative agreement has been reached on a new three-year labor contract between the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the United Transportation Union, which represents 5,000 bus and rail operators.

Terms of the settlement are being withheld pending a ratification meeting for the Union's members. Subject to Union ratification, the MTA Board will consider approval of the contract at its January Board meeting.

In a joint statement, MTA Board Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky, CEO Roger Snoble and UTU General Chairman James A. Williams said, "We are delighted that we have been able to reach an agreement which is equitable to both parties. This is a fair agreement for the employees, for the MTA and above all, for our 500,000 customers who depend on our public transit system."

Negotiations reached their final stages in the last month. MTA negotiators, Chairman Yaroslavsky and Board member Antonio Villaraigosa and UTU General Chairman James Williams presided over the successful discussions.

MTA Board member Antonio Villaraigosa said, "This agreement ensures that bus and rail service will continue without interruption for the transit dependent people of our region."

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