

Metro News Pressroom

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor of the City of Lancaster to Take Reins as New Metro Board Chair Effective July 1

Frank C. Roberts, Mayor of the City of Lancaster and Metro Board Member will become Metro Board Chair beginning July 1, 2004. Roberts, who has served as 1st Vice Chair since July 2003, will serve as Chair for a term of one year.

"This upcoming year for Metro will be a positive one as we refocus our efforts in providing quality service to our customers," said Roberts. "The agency must and will over the next year begin to address customer complaints, get focused on serving the public, ensure that the region gets it's fair share of important federal transportation dollars and work closely with all Metro customers, including the 88 cities in the region in providing the best transportation services in the nation."



Lancaster Mayor Frank Roberts

Roberts represents the North County area of the region having been elected Mayor of the City of Lancaster in 1996 and reelected in 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004. Prior to his election as Mayor, he served as a member of the Lancaster City Council since 1992.

In addition to his current duties on the Metro Board of Directors, Roberts also serves on the Boards of the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District and the Antelope Valley Transit and is director of the Los Angeles County Private Industry Council.

Roberts is a retired professor for Antelope Valley College after 38 years of service, 16 of which were as Division Chairman and the last 20 years as Dean of Applied Academics and Technologies.

Roberts succeeds outgoing Chair and Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky who has served as Chairman since July 2003.

"It has been a monumental year and Supervisor Yaroslavsky has done an outstanding job in guiding this agency through difficult times," said Roberts. "We owe him a debt of gratitude for his efforts on behalf of the entire region."

Los Angeles City Mayor James Hahn becomes the Metro Board 1st Vice Chair with County Supervisor Gloria Molina assuming the 2nd Vice Chair position.

Metro is the regional transportation-planning agency for Los Angeles County. It also operates a fleet of more than 2,200 buses in a service area of 1,433 square miles.

Metro also operates the 73.1-mile Metro Rail System and is the primary funding agency for Metrolink, the six-county, 507-mile commuter rail system. In addition, Metro funds street and highway projects, bike lanes and many other transportation improvements throughout Los Angeles County.

The Metro Rail System includes the 17.4-mile Metro Red Line subway, and three light rail lines, the 22-mile Metro Blue Line (Los Angeles to Long Beach), the Metro Green Line (Norwalk to El Segundo), and the 13.7-mile Metro Gold Line (Pasadena to Los Angeles).

EDITORS NOTE: Digital photo of Frank Roberts is available.

