

REPORT FROM THE CEO

A weekly report
from the office
of the CEO

June 19, 1995



I'm leaving for Washington early this week where I hope to persuade congressmen that the proposed federal budget will have a devastating impact on transportation in the Greater Los Angeles area.

The House Subcommittee's proposal should be out at the end of the week, and we'll know more then about the risks we face.

Green Line Opens Aug. 12

I'm pleased to announce the Green Line will open for business on August 12. Free rides will be offered during the first two days of service. A discounted introductory fare of 25 cents will follow the free-ride period and will last until Aug. 31, at which point regular fares will be imposed.

Start-up of the 20-mile line will increase the mileage of the Metro system from 26 to 46. It will take 35 minutes to ride from end-to-end. Trains will stop at each station every 7 1/2 minutes during rush hour and every 12 minutes during off-peak hours.

Airport-bound passengers will use a bus shuttle service operating between the Aviation Station and the airline terminals. The service, provided by the Los Angeles Department of Airports, will be free and will be operated seven days a week during Green Line operating hours. The trip from the Bradley terminal at LAX to the Aviation Station is just under three miles and takes 10 minutes.

Green Line trains are identical to the Blue Line trains and were built by Sumitomo Corporation of America. Each car has 76 seats and can carry 230 passengers.

Inequities Must be Eliminated

We have accelerated our efforts to eliminate inconsistent treatment between former LACTC and former RTD employees. Chief Administrative Officer

Judith Pierce has asked that all executive officers and department heads forward to Director of Human Resources Frank Montalvo their list of inconsistent practices with any suggestions they have for correction. Get your comments to her no later than Friday, June 23. The goal is to have this work completed by the end of September.

New Appointments

Meantime, we continue to put together a first-class team of professionals. This week, I have a couple of new appointments to share with you. In mid-July, Stanley Phernambucq will begin as our new chief construction officer, overseeing the rail construction unit.

He has a wealth of experience. As a 24-year veteran with the Army Corps of Engineers, he was responsible for the planning, design, construction and operation of many public works projects in Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas. Most recently he served as district engineer in Vicksburg, Mississippi, supervising 1,500 people with an annual budget of more than \$300 million and was responsible for the completion of the \$1.8 billion Red River navigation project.

Phernambucq served as district engineer in San Francisco from 1990-92 and was responsible for operating and maintaining navigable channels in Northern California and other water-related design and construction projects. He also served as deputy district engineer in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, overseeing the construction of the \$1 billion Cerrillos Dam in Ponce, Puerto Rico.

My hat's off to
our 1995 Bus
Roadeo champion
Mark Holland
from Division 12
in Long Beach.
Not only did Mark
win the
championship, but
he did so on his
first try!

Stan received his master's degree in civil engineering from USC in 1982 and a B.S. from West Point in 1971.

New Director of Revenue

Agapito Diaz joins us as director of revenue, a newly created position which will help us to further get our financial house in order. Agapito comes to us from New York, where he was assistant commissioner, Manhattan Enforcement Operations in the city department of transportation. He was responsible for 20 managers who supervised the enforcement of traffic and parking regulations. He also held executive positions with the bureau of traffic, the department of general services and the department of sanitation. Please welcome our two newest.

Goings

Best wishes to Jim McLaughlin, who has left us for a position as the transportation policy advisor to Mayor Riordan. And we'll miss Director of Employee Relations Ann Neeson, who has joined Southern California Edison.

Cheers to Mark Holland!

I had a great time at the Bus Roadeo preliminary and final competitions! My hat's off to our 1995 champion Mark Holland from Division 12 in Long Beach. Not only did Mark win the championship, but he did so on his first try — he had never before competed in a Bus Roadeo. The second place finisher was Samuel Morales from Division 1. Elias Soria from Division 10 was third, and Salvador Sanchez from Division 3 came in fourth.

Mark will represent us at the international competition this fall in San Antonio.

Division Visits

I visited Divisions 12 and 18 on June 7, and was tremendously impressed with the way our single manager program is working to achieve greater accountability. I noticed, too, that there was a lot of energy directed at bus cleanliness, which is at the top of my priority list for this year. In fact, we're signaling the importance of bus cleanliness program with a Zero Tolerance press conference on Monday, June 26. That's when we'll also talk about two additional MTA programs: the Los Angeles County Probation Juvenile Alternate Work Service (JAWS) Program and the Mediation and Restitution Services (MARS) Program.

I was pleased to hear we had such a great turn-out for the Division 7 Open House last Saturday. The more the community is involved in the goings-on of our divisions, the better we will serve our riders.

Tunneling in North Hollywood Resumes

Tunneling resumed in North Hollywood last week. Our contractor is using modified equipment to prevent a repeat of the sinkage problems experienced when work began six months ago. The contractor will lengthen the hood covering the scooping machine to shore up the soil ahead of the tunnel face. Workers will adjust the breasting table, which catches soil shaken loose from above the tunnel, and will increase the power of jacks that push the digger forward through rocks and boulders. Despite the delay incurred on the project, we still expect the segment to open in the year 2000.

Ethics Training

Training in our ethics policy and how ethics relates to business will begin in July. It is mandatory for all managers to attend. The sessions will be conducted by Ryan Nakagawa. If you're a manager, you'll soon receive a flyer containing the date and time.

An Honor for Sharon Papa!

Sharon Papa was recently nominated and unanimously elected to the position of Chairperson of the police/security committee at APTA's annual police/security workshop. Nearly 100 transit police chiefs and security directors from throughout North America attended the conference and participated in the voting. Their choice of Sharon for this position was not only an endorsement of her personal team-building and leadership achievements, but also recognizes our agency's innovations in transit policing in recent years. My congratulations!

MTA Softball

A footnote about MTA camaraderie: I understand that Employee Activities has organized a terrific fast-pitch softball league open to all MTA employees. Comprised of six teams, the MTA players get together in Santa Fe Springs every Saturday night. Unfortunately, it's too late to join this summer's league. But if you're a sports fan, keep in mind that the department will organize a basketball league this November. Sounds like fun!

- Franklin White

I welcome your comments and questions in response to CEO Report, which is designed to provide employees with direct communication with my office. Please contact either of my Special Assistants, Michael Gonzalez at 244-7476, or Phyllis Tucker at 244-6191. Also, employees can fax comments to 244-6014.

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Editor:	Andrea Greene
Art Director:	Anne Roubideaux
Designer:	Terry McMahon
Deputy Dir., Media Relations:	Jim Smart
Special Assistant to CEO:	Phyllis Tucker
Manager, Printing Services:	Al Moore