



# METRO MOVES

FEBRUARY 1993

## City Celebrates L.A.'s 1st Modern Subway

**N**ew subway riders who came to try the Metro Red Line on opening day, Jan. 30, found a party at every train station.

Celebrations reflecting the city's rich multi-cultural heritage were hosted by many community organizations and downtown merchants near the subway's five stations. A variety of performers—from jugglers, clowns, musicians and dancers to popular characters Bart Simpson, "Latin Elvis" and Raphael the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle—kept crowds entertained as they waited to board the shiny, new stainless steel trains.

### Olvera Street fiesta

Across from Union Station, the Olvera Street Merchants Association hosted "A Fiesta at Olvera." Folkloric dancers, mariachi musicians and popular radio personality Humberto Luna of KTNQ-AM added to the street fair's Latin flavor. Children were treated to pinata-and mask-making workshops.

The Civic Center area was draped in red, white and blue for its "Spirit of L.A." theme celebration, hosted by the County of Los Angeles. Local marching bands



**Go Metro**—During the Metro Red Line's opening ceremony, Gov. Pete Wilson presented Mayor Tom Bradley with a new California vehicle plate. Many elected officials joined the celebration, including Ed Edelman, L.A. County supervisor and MTA board member (far left) and John Ferraro, L.A. City Council president (center).



**Subway secret is out**—Commuters have discovered what's deep below downtown L.A.'s congested streets. The new Metro Red Line, L.A.'s first modern subway, is attracting more than triple the number of riders predicted. Ridership figures rose to 25,000 a day during the first week of operations.

and drill teams set the patriotic tone for military and community exhibits, and the crowd enjoyed entertainment ranging from a Chinese dragon dance to a barber shop quartet.

### Grand Central Market

Farther down the line at Pershing Square station, Grand Central Market opened its food court to offer a variety of ethnic dishes at its "Munch at Grand Central" party, hosted by Dodger great Manny Mota. Performances as varied as Grand Central's cuisine included a South American marimba band, Pacific Islanders dance group and karate demonstrations.

Citicorp Plaza, in partnership with K-LITE-FM, sponsored a musical journey entitled "Transportation and Rhythm Through the Decades" near the 7th St./Metro station. The program linked the history of L.A.'s public transportation system to the musical eras from the '50s to the '90s. Visitors strolled through an L.A. Metro System Information Gallery, which traced the evolution of rail from the Pacific Electric Red Car to the current subway line, and included a real vintage Red Car.

### Festival de los Niños

A Children's Festival/"Festival de los Niños," across from the Westlake/MacArthur Park station, brought the neighborhood together for a talent show featuring local youth, art workshops and free health screenings provided by St. Vincent's Hospital and numerous non-profit health care agencies. KLVE/FM radio personality Pepe Barreto acted as Master of Ceremonies. Community participation was recruited by co-sponsor Comision Femenil de Los Angeles. **M**

### Ride the Red Line for 25¢

Sample the subway experience for just a quarter through Feb. 28! Transfers from Metrolink commuter trains are free. Once arrived at any of the Red Line's five stations, riders will find numerous connecting bus and shuttle lines that make it easy to reach any destination. After the trial 25-cent fare period, the fare will be \$1.10. **M**

# Agencies Merge To Form MTA

The newly created Metropolitan Transportation Authority now oversees all of L.A. County's transportation planning, funding and bus and rail line operations.

AB 152, the reorganization bill authored by Assemblyman Richard Katz, and signed by Gov. Pete Wilson last year, paved the way for the merging of the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) and the Southern California Rapid Transit District (RTD). Although the merger became effective Feb. 1, the reorganization bill provides for a two-month transition period, allowing both agency boards to continue operating until April.

A Merger Steering Committee, composed of LACTC and RTD board representatives, is guiding the reorganization effort.

The MTA's 13-member board will consist of the five Los Angeles County supervisors; the mayor of Los Angeles and three appointees; four members

appointed by the League of Cities; and one non-voting member appointed by Gov. Wilson.



The league appointees are Evan Anderson Braude, Long Beach city councilmember and RTD board member; Jim Cragin, Gardena city councilmember; John Fasana, Duarte city councilmember; and Larry Zarian, Glendale city councilmember. The mayor's appointees are Los Angeles City councilmembers Richard Alatorre, Marvin Braude and Mark Ridley-Thomas. The governor's appointee is unannounced.

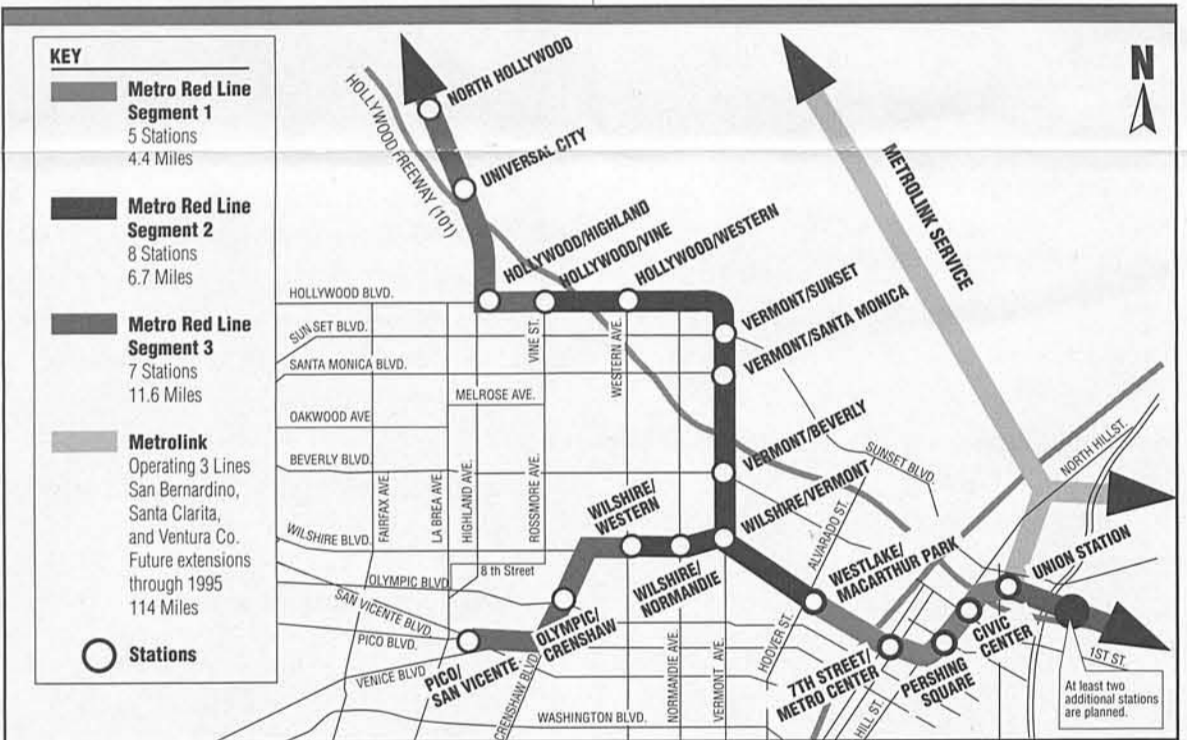
Over time, the MTA will become familiar to all users of buses and Metro trains as the single agency responsible for Los Angeles County's integrated Metro System. **M**

## Red Line Grand Opening Sponsors

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Citibank North America, Inc.               | Escudero-Fribourg Architects                   |
| Citicorp Plaza                             | Safety Belt Safe USA                           |
| Construction Control Services Corporation  | East 60th Street Community Improvement Club    |
| O'Brien-Kreitzberg                         | Jenese Center, Inc.                            |
| Dames & Moore                              | Florence-Firestone Service Center              |
| Bank of America                            | National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer |
| D'Leon Consulting Engineering Company      | Parents of Watts Working with Youth and Adults |
| The First Boston Corporation               | Watts Neighborhood Center                      |
| Engineering Science, Inc.                  | The Volunteer Center                           |
| Browning-Ferris Industries                 | M.A.D.D.                                       |
| Jacobs Associates                          | Angeles Girl Scout Council                     |
| Cushman & Wakefield/Broadway Plaza         | Peace Corps                                    |
| Jenkins, Gales, & Martinez, Inc.           | L.A. Conservation Corps                        |
| LKG-CMC, Inc.                              | Privilege Plus/White Memorial Center           |
| Martin & Huang International               | L.A.P.D.                                       |
| Coopers & Lybrand                          | S.A.N.E.                                       |
| The Nettleship Group                       | Los Angeles Unified School District            |
| O'Melveny & Myers                          | El Rescate                                     |
| Kal Krishnan Consulting, Inc.              | Westminster Neighborhood Association           |
| KLITE-FM                                   | Amnesty International                          |
| Parsons-Dillingham-De Leuw, Inc.           | Santa Anita Acupuncture Center                 |
| KLVE-FM                                    | Artemis Capital Group, Inc.                    |
| Better Personnel                           | Charles A. Bell Securities Corp.               |
| KTNQ-FM                                    | Nossamen, Guthner, Knox & Elliott              |
| Andy Gump, Inc.                            | Otis School of Art and Design                  |
| Los Angeles Hilton & Towers                | Catellus Development                           |
| Olvera Street Merchants Association        | DKS Associates                                 |
| Engineering Management Consultants         | Philippe The Original                          |
| Grand Central Market                       | Checkers Hotel                                 |
| Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc. | Applied Management & Planning Group            |
| Daniel, Mann, Johnson & Mendenhall         | Booz-Allen & Hamilton, Inc.                    |
| Comision Femenil de Los Angeles            | First Interstate Bank                          |
| ICF-Kaiser Engineers Corp.                 | The Ralph M. Parsons Company                   |
| Concerned Citizens for Better Communities  | Dillingham Construction N.A., Inc.             |

## Chief Executive Officer Named

New York State Transportation Commissioner Franklin White has been named chief executive officer of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. White has served as a commissioner for New York since 1985. He has also served as State Secretary of Transportation and Public Safety in Virginia. It is expected he will be in position by April 1. Neil Peterson will continue serving as LACTC executive director through March 31. **M**



**Red route**—The Metro Red Line's 4.4 mile Segment 1 is the beginning of a 23-mile subway that forms the backbone of the Metro System. The line will eventually branch in three directions — to East Los Angeles, the Mid-City Pico/San Vicente area and to North Hollywood.

## MTA Elects Chairman

Richard Alatorre, Los Angeles City councilman and former LACTC chairman, is the MTA's new chairman. Elected by his fellow board members in February, the two-term city councilman will preside over the merger of the LACTC and the SCRTD, of which Alatorre is also a board member.

Ed Edelman, L.A. County supervisor and member of both the RTD and LACTC, was named vice-chair. Alatorre,

the first Latino to serve as chairman of the commission, was appointed by Mayor Tom Bradley to both the LACTC and RTD boards in 1990. During his term, he will oversee the largest ongoing public works project in the nation. Alatorre stressed the need for strong leadership, particularly during the merger, over the next several months, of the LACTC and RTD boards into the new Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA).

"The chairman's role in the impending merger will be to ensure that the transition is orderly," said Alatorre, "and that the groundwork is laid for a successful MTA that provides the most efficient and effective transportation options for the diverse ethnic and economic communities that comprise Los Angeles." Under a motion by Mayor Tom Bradley, the chair and vice-chair will serve until June 30. **M**

# New Nickerson Gardens Shuttle Increasing Mobility, Jobs, Business Skills in Watts

**A** new shuttle service is developing job skills and entrepreneurial ability among the residents of Watts' Nickerson Gardens.

The Nickerson Gardens shuttle, which begins this month with four to five vans, will offer Nickerson residents free rides to job training and child care sites. At the same time, the service, which is staffed and managed entirely by residents, is developing business and job skills that will eventually enable the residents to build a healthy private company. If successful, this company could expand to run other community transportation systems as well as the Nickerson shuttle.

The innovative idea of combining business and job development with transportation is the product of a collaboration between the Nickerson Gardens Resident Management Corporation (NGRMC), the LACTC and, soon, the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA).

## Rides to job training sites

The resident association originally approached the commission about funding a shuttle service that would give Nickerson residents reliable transportation to job training sites — such as Southwest College — and child care centers. The shuttle fills an important transportation gap in the NGRMC's Resident Employment Empowerment Program (REEP), an ambitious effort to address illiteracy, unemployment, job inexperience and lack of business ownership among Nickerson's more than 5,000 residents — more than 90% of whom receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

"We suggested that the Nickerson Gardens group also apply for an entrepreneurial services grant from the FTA that would provide training in the transportation business," said LACTC Southeast Area Team Project Manager Jim Parker, who has been helping the NGRMC get the service started. "An FTA representative met with the resident corporation board and came away with a really good feeling about the potential of an economic development project."

To pursue the FTA grant, the shuttle service needed a mentor — a successful transportation provider that would help Nickerson residents learn how to run a

transportation service. The Long Beach-based private bus company ATE/Ryder signed on.

## Entrepreneurial skills

"We wanted to help the people in the community have better transportation," said ATE/Ryder Senior Vice President Steve Keiper. "We hope there's also a potential that they can become a subcontractor for us and help us fulfill our Disadvantaged Business Enterprise requirements."

To get the Nickerson shuttle off the ground, ATE/Ryder is providing technical support and training in such areas as contracts, finance and accounting, security, transit planning, driver training, marketing, purchasing, budgeting and personnel management. A full-time ATE/Ryder supervisor is assisting on-site.

## Shuttle staffed by residents

But it is Nickerson residents themselves

who are the heart of the shuttle service. Ten to 12 residents are being hired to fill positions as drivers, dispatchers, bus aides, a mechanic, route supervisors and office support. In two years, the service hopes its success will call for as many as 24 jobs and a dozen vans.

The shuttle service, in collaboration with the REEP program, is already being innovative about developing jobs. The shuttle's new security officer received his training through a program arranged by REEP.

The NGRMC board of directors, aided by an LACTC advisory committee, is supervising the \$1.3-million project, for which the LACTC is seeking federal funding.

"This is another way the LACTC is using transportation resources to create long-term jobs that fulfill real needs in the community," Parker said. "It's worth the risks because the potential benefits could be immense." **M**

# Blue Line Extension to Pasadena Gets Go-Ahead

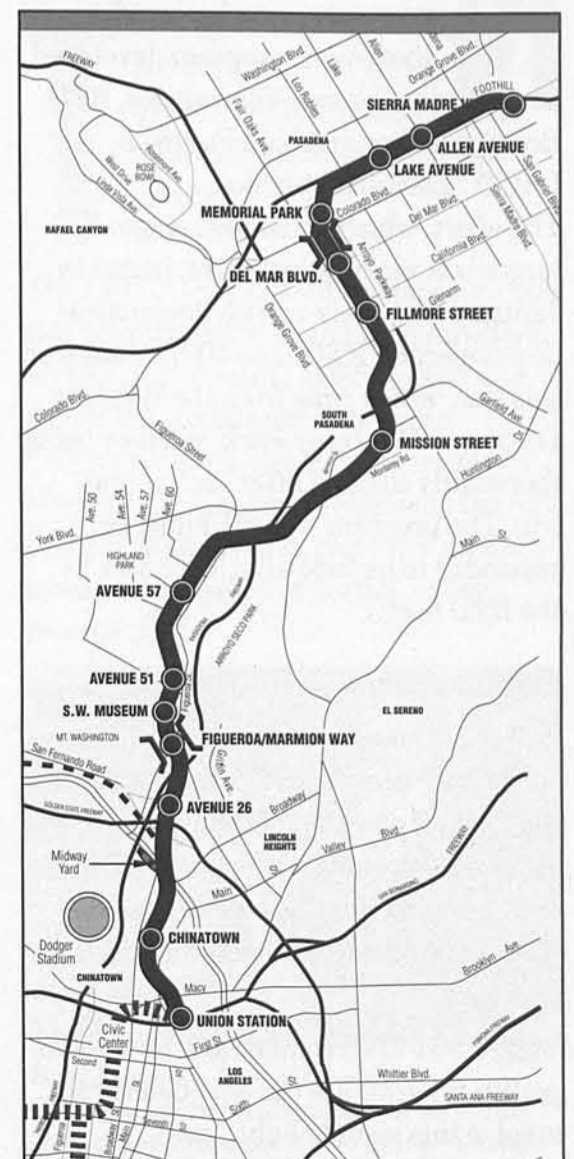
## Construction begins this fall

**W**ith formal approval for construction granted by the LACTC in January, rail service from Pasadena to Los Angeles will become a reality by 1997.

The commission approved a budget of \$841 million for construction of the 13.6-mile line that will run from Union Station in downtown Los Angeles to Sierra Madre Villa Avenue in Pasadena. On its way, the line will pass through the communities of Chinatown, Highland Park, Mount Washington and South Pasadena.

Powered by electricity, the train will run mostly at-grade on tracks purchased from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company last June.

The state and L.A. County will split the cost of the new line, using funds from local sales tax Propositions A and C and state rail bond Proposition 108. **M**



# Defense Firms Team with Rail Car Makers on L.A. Car Bids

Six domestic aerospace/defense firms teamed with four international rail car manufacturers in January to submit bids on building the new L.A. Car.

The four proposals received by the LACTC in January seek a contract for 87 L.A. standardized light rail vehicles for the Metro Green Line and other light rail lines to be added to the Metro System in the next several years.

## **Bids being evaluated**

Specifications for the cars call for them to be compatible with the Metro Blue Line and upgradable to driverless technology. LACTC staff will spend the next several months evaluating the submissions before the commission awards the contract.

"We've worked very hard to encourage local aerospace and defense firms to form these partnerships with the rail car industry," said LACTC Commissioner

and L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich when news of the proposals was announced. "Our effort signals a new way of doing business and ushers in a new era in transportation that will create long-term opportunities for bidders."

The four bidding teams are:

- Northrop Corporation with Bombardier Corporation;
- Lockheed Corporation and Hughes Aircraft Company with Morrison-Knudsen;
- TRW Aerospace and AAI Corporation with Siemens Duewag Corporation;
- Rockwell Corporation with Sumitomo Corporation.

## **Fostering technology transfer**

Responding to the LACTC's recently increased domestic content requirement of 60%, domestic content commitments from the four groups ranged from the minimum required to nearly 81%.

In addition, the LACTC's revised proposal criteria include an innovative domestic business development component. This new component awards extra points for bids that foster new American transportation businesses or new products from existing firms.

## **Advanced transit products**

The request for proposal process also includes a research and development requirement, The Advanced Transit Products Development Program, which encourages defense and aerospace firms to apply their technology to transportation product design. Each team is required to submit three Advanced Transit Product ideas. The winning partnership will receive up to \$10 million for product development.

"These partnerships will create thousands of local jobs," said LACTC Commissioner Nick Patsouras, a leading advocate of defense/rail industry collaboration. **M**

# Graffiti-Busting Program Begins on RTD Buses

No more graffiti on RTD buses.

That's the ambitious goal of an aggressive new bus graffiti abatement program developed by Antonio Villaraigosa, RTD Board member and Neil Peterson, LACTC executive director.

The effort, which is the first stage of a larger bus security initiative, began in January with a six-month demonstration project on RTD Line 30-31. Buses on this line, which runs from the Wilshire District to Monterey Park, are now being thoroughly cleaned after each round-trip. The program will gradually be expanded to include all 2,500 buses in the RTD fleet.

## **Comprehensive approach**

"We're not going to tolerate graffiti on our buses," declared Villaraigosa. "Both the LACTC and the RTD have already initiated programs to combat graffiti. This recommendation coordinates the efforts and develops a comprehensive approach."

"Aggressive enforcement and immediate graffiti removal are the best deterrents to solve this visual blight," said Peterson. "The Metro Blue Line is a good testament of how this policy can work.

After 2-1/2 years of operations, the Blue Line remains graffiti-free."

Changing maintenance standards and procedures are only a part of the new plan. The program will also include:

- **Mobile Graffiti Removal Vans** - To keep buses clean while in service, bus operators will dispatch mobile crews to remove freshly applied graffiti;
- **Bus Clean Up by Convicted Graffiti Vandalism Offenders** - probation program that will enable convicted graffiti vandals to make restitution by cleaning buses;
- **Street Artist Program for Taggers** - pilot program for taggers and young artists to promote alternative venues for artistic expression and provide art education;
- **Emphasis on Community Ownership of Buses** - public relations program to encourage community members to get involved in the graffiti prevention effort;
- **Integration of Graffiti Prevention and Drug Prevention Programs** - inclusion of graffiti prevention education the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) D.A.R.E. and in

the Los Angeles County Sheriff's S.A.N.E. Drug Prevention Programs ;

- **Transit Courts** - The LACTC and RTD will work with the district attorney and the Los Angeles city attorney to develop specialized courts for handling transit-related crimes;
- **Law Enforcement Training** - creation of a special training film that will educate local law enforcement officers in transit crime enforcement options and how to properly handle transit crimes.

## **Better bus security**

The \$1-million graffiti abatement program, approved for Proposition C funding by the LACTC in January, is part of a larger initiative to improve bus security.

A citizen task force and an expert task force, whose members include LAPD Chief Willie Williams, SCRTD Transit Police Chief Sharon Papas and Montebello Police Chief G. Steve Simonian, will issue a report detailing potential long-term security solutions later this month. **M**

# Cameras Catch Blue Line Rail Crossing Violators

**H**undreds of foolhardy drivers and pedestrians risk their lives each week by crossing train tracks illegally, according to a 90-day intensive review of grade crossings safety along the Metro Blue Line.

But the LACTC hopes that a new automated enforcement system will cut these numbers dramatically.

The Sheriff's Department report on Blue Line grade crossing violations, released in early December, analyzed 7,760 citations issued over 90 days to learn more about why people are ignoring safety measures and how such measures can be improved.

## Warnings ignored

"The most common violations are illegal left turns and drivers and pedestrians who ignore warning lights and go around lowered crossing gates," said Lou Hubaud, LACTC director of rail safety and security.

A special Sheriff's Department rail safety task force deployed 10 deputies to patrol vehicle and pedestrian crossings along the most troubled Metro Blue Line intersections over the summer. During the study, the task force issued an average of 600 citations per week.

## Automated enforcement

Since the presence of Sheriff's deputies tended to decrease the number of violations, the LACTC and RCC boards decided to extend the special enforcement program through June.

Based on recommendations from safety experts, the LACTC is planning to undertake additional safety measures on the Blue Line, such as automated enforcement systems, education and traffic engineering improvements.

The first measure — an automated enforcement system consisting of cam-

eras, computers and detection strips imbedded in pavements — was installed in Compton in January after receiving approval from the Compton Municipal Court. The system, which is the first of its kind to receive approval for use in this country, has been employed extensively in Europe, where it has resulted in dramatic drops in crossing violations and accidents. Two Compton intersections were chosen to test the system because violations at their Blue Line crossings are representative of violations along the 23-mile rail route.

"When drivers know that the probability of being caught is 100%, they will think twice before violating the law," said LACTC Commissioner Ray Grabinski at a press conference to announce the installation.

## Computerized cameras

Bullet-proof computerized cameras mounted on high poles began capturing an average of one violation an hour on film during testing in November. The Sheriff's Department, which patrols the Blue Line, began issuing citations based on the system's photos last month.

"The system generates irrefutable evidence of illegal crossings," said Captain Frank Vadurro, commander of the Sheriff's Department Transit Services Bureau. "The photos produced by the system clearly show the vehicle, license plate and face of the driver committing the violation."

A second automated enforcement system will be installed and tested at several downtown Los Angeles Blue Line crossings in the next several months.

The Blue Line grade crossing safety program is part of an overall rail safety plan that includes Metrolink and future rail lines. **M**

# State Grants \$179.2 Million for Metrolink

**T**he California Transportation Commission (CTC) allocated \$179.2 million to the LACTC in January for use on Metrolink commuter rail and other rail projects.

The CTC also set aside \$13.5 million for highway improvements in Los Angeles County.

The money comes from state Propositions 111 and 108, approved by the voters in 1990, and from state transit planning and development funds.

The monies will mainly be used for track and signal improvements and station construction on a number of lines planned to expand the Metrolink network: Oceanside-to-Fullerton, Los Angeles-to-Ventura, San Bernardino-to-Los Angeles, and a San Bernardino/Riverside/Fullerton line. **M**

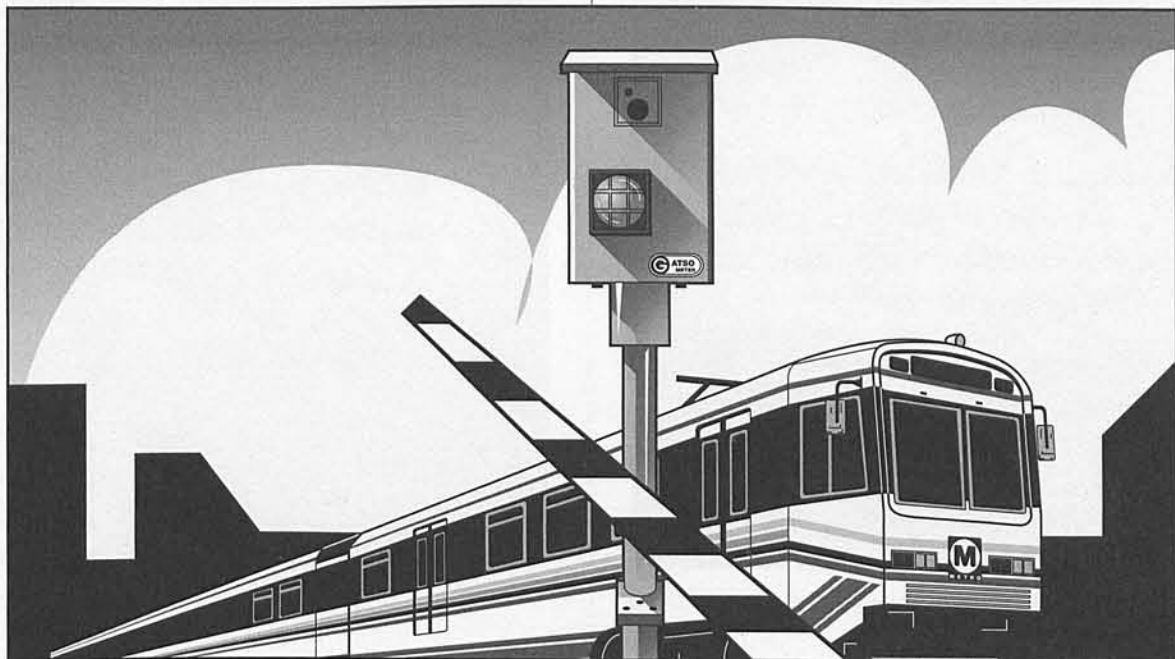
# Metro Award Honors City of Commerce

**T**he City of Commerce has received the LACTC's latest quarterly Metro Award for its outstanding transportation system.

The LACTC recognized the fare-free bus and paratransit system for its excellent service, outstanding safety record and model bus maintenance program. Commerce's vehicles have consistently received the California Highway Patrol's highest safety rating, and have accumulated several years of perfect safety records. **M**



**Best buses** — City of Commerce Councilmember Ruben Batres (left) and Director of Transportation Daniel Gomez accept an LACTC Metro Award for the outstanding service provided by City of Commerce Municipal Bus Lines.



## ■ **Midday Trains Added**

Starting Feb. 22, new trains will make it possible to travel outbound from Union Station in the morning.

Among other service enhancements, the additional trains will now enable commuters to ride Metrolink from San Bernardino County in the morning and continue to destinations in the San Fernando Valley, or vice versa, as well as to leave for downtown Los Angeles from Santa Clarita after morning rush hour. Four midday trains will be added on the San Bernardino line, four on the Santa Clarita line, and two on the Ventura County line. In March extra morning service will also be added from Union Station to Glendale, and late afternoon service from Glendale to Union Station. To receive a revised Metrolink schedule, as well as information on station locations and fares, call 1-800-371-LINK.

## ■ **Free Taxis At Chatsworth Station Connect Passengers with Destinations**

Metrolink commuters who get off and on the train at the Chatsworth station are enjoying free taxi rides to and from their jobs.

The free service is the first of its kind for the Metrolink system.

Valley transit planners developed this creative solution to get Metrolink riders to major employment areas from a station that is located "off the beaten path." Although several bus lines serve the area around the somewhat isolated station, the taxi shuttle provides an immediate connection.

Sponsored by the City of L.A.'s 12th Council District Transportation Management Association (TMA), the program received a \$75,000 grant from LACTC under its Transportation Demand Management program.

## ■ **Cabs await trains**

"About 100 passengers currently use the morning and evening shuttle service, sharing rides to the area's major employers. An on-site coordinator quickly ushers train riders onto waiting taxis designated to various drop-off points," said Aaron Hanson, executive director for the 12th Council District TMA.

Within 60 seconds of disembarking the trains, passengers are in cabs headed to Great Western Savings, Hughes, Packard Bell, Rocketdyne, Teledyne and Warner Center, which has its own Transportation Management Association working in partnership with the 12th Council District.

## ■ **Flexible routes**

The area's brand new Checker Cab franchise jumped at the opportunity to build visibility in the community and submitted the only contract bid for the project.


"We're providing a service unlike any offered," said Rick Ward, Checker's general manager. "The service is more successful than we ever imagined. We've tailored our routes to be flexible to serve both the area's big and small employers. We drive brand new automobiles that are equipped with wheelchair lifts and run on clean burning fuels," he said.

The shuttle service is a prime example of how public/private partnerships are coming together to develop unique transportation strategies that make commuting without cars easy. For information on the program, call 1-(800)-794-1-CAB or (818) 780-1234.



## ■ **Ticket Machines to Accept Charge, ATM Cards**

Metrolink commuters will be soon able to pay for tickets using VISA and MasterCard charge cards and ATM bank cards.

Ticket machines will start accepting charge cards by the end of this month; the machines will accept ATM cards by the end of March. 

## ■ **Service Extends to Montclair**

Metrolink will begin serving the new Montclair station on Feb. 22.

With the addition of Montclair, a third county — San Bernardino — joins Los Angeles and Ventura counties in the Metrolink commuter rail system. Service will extend farther east to San Bernardino in March, with stops in Upland and Rialto.


## ■ **Riverside Service Set for Spring**

Metrolink will begin serving Riverside County in April.

Six trains a day will run from Riverside to Los Angeles, paralleling the Pomona Freeway (60).

## ■ **New SCRRA Chair Takes Office**

San Bernardino County Supervisor Larry Walker has succeeded Rancho Palos Verdes Councilwoman Jacki Bacharach as chair of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), the five-county agency that supervises Metrolink.

Walker, formerly vice-chair, will serve a one-year term. The board elected Dana Reed, the Orange County Transportation Authority's representative to the SCRRA, to replace Walker as vice chair. 

## Receive Metro Moves Every Month

If you'd like to be on our mailing list, fill out your name and address, clip and mail to:

**Communications Department**  
Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
818 West Seventh Street, Suite 1100  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
or call (213) 244-7181

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Apt \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

# NEWS BRIEFS



## All That Idles Isn't Bad

A limited period of idling, such as at a drive-through window, can be less polluting than stopping and starting your engine.

It is now known that an automobile must idle as much as 10 minutes — in some cases more — before it emits as much carbon monoxide and other pollutants as if the vehicle had been turned off and started again in that same period of time.

The technology on the effect of auto emissions is changing as more test results are documented. One fact, however, remains the same. Public transportation, ridesharing, walking and biking still pollute less than driving alone.

## Study of Inner City Transit Needs Underway

A six-month study of inner city transportation needs got started last month after the LACTC awarded a contract to a joint venture research team.

The team, headed by Barton Aschman Associates, Inc. and the Irvin Hampton Company, will measure bus frequency, route needs and quality of service in South Central Los Angeles, specifically in the area bounded by the Santa Monica, Glenn Anderson, Harbor and San Diego freeways.

The study will also propose strategies for making it easier to get around in this heavily transit-dependent section of the city.

An interagency task force, comprised of representatives from the City of Los Angeles Planning Department, Department of Transportation and Legislative Affairs office, as well as from the Southern California Rapid Transit District and Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke's office, is overseeing the research team's efforts.

For more information about the Inner City Transit Needs Assessment Study, call South Bay Area Team Project Manager Renee Berlin at (213) 244-6863.

## Call For Projects

Cities, transportation agencies, transportation management associations and L.A. County have until March 31 to submit project applications for the next cycle of government funding.

The LACTC, which is charged with allocating a variety of funds to qualified projects, recently mailed out about 2,000 applications. The new procedure makes it possible to compete for federal, state and local dollars in a consolidated application process.

Transportation and related projects receive funding for either two or four years. Projects in the four-year category include highway, bus, rail, transit security and transportation enhancements (projects that incorporate environmental improvements with transportation).

Those in the two-year category include bikeways, transportation demand management (ride sharing, telecom-

muting, special shuttles, etc.), local traffic systems management (synchronized signals, etc.), commuter rail, transit centers and park-and-ride facilities.

About \$1.2 billion will be programmed in June for projects that meet the LACTC's criteria, which include such standards as mobility improvement, regional significance, environmental enhancement, ability to connect with other transportation modes, and economic development and equity. For further information, call LACTC Assistant Director of Capital Planning and Programming Nancy Whelan at (213) 244-6326. **M**



**Downtown highway heroes** — The highly successful Metro Freeway Service Patrol expanded in January to provide continuous service on freeways around the downtown Los Angeles business loop from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. The service, a joint effort of the LACTC, Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol, provides stranded motorists with assistance such as a gallon of gas, changing a flat tire, or a free tow.



## FTA Approves L.A. County Paratransit Plan

**T**he Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) has approved Los Angeles County's first Coordinated Paratransit Plan.

As required by the 1990 Federal Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), the plan describes how L.A. County will meet its transit operators' obligation to provide complementary paratransit service to individuals with disabilities who are unable to use regular, fixed-route bus and rail services.

FTA's approval signifies that the LACTC is on target in its efforts to provide paratransit service comparable to the

fixed-route bus and rail service enjoyed by the general public.

The LACTC's plan is one of the few across the country that the FTA has approved. An annual update to the plan, detailing the progress that has been made in meeting the ADA mandates, has been prepared and released for public comment. As one of its last acts before being replaced by the new MTA, the LACTC approved the annual update at the end of January and immediately forwarded it to the FTA.

Copies of the annual update to the MTA's Paratransit Plan may be obtained by calling Rich Majeske, Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) administrative assistant, at (213) 244-6284. **M**

# METRO MOVES

*A monthly publication  
produced by the MTA.*

## **Managing Editor**

Roberta Tinajero

## **Assistant Editor**

Carol Wald

## **Art Director**

Anne Roubideaux

## **Graphic Design/Illustrations**

Joe Simpson, Jr

## **Staff Photographer**

Kelly Harriger

## **Deputy Director of Communications**

Alice Tolbert-Wiggins

## **Director of Communications**

Stephanie Brady



*Metro Moves* is printed entirely on  
recycled paper.

## MTA BOARD MEMBERS

**RICHARD ALATORRE**  
Chair/Councilmember  
City of Los Angeles

**MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County

**TOM BRADLEY**  
Mayor  
City of Los Angeles

**MARVIN BRAUDE**  
Councilmember  
City of Los Angeles

**EVAN ANDERSON BRAUDE**  
Councilmember  
City of Long Beach

**YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County

**JIM CRAGIN**  
Councilmember  
City of Gardena

**DEANE DANA**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County

**EDMUND D. EDELMAN**  
Vice-Chair/Supervisor  
Los Angeles County

**JOHN FASANA**  
Councilmember  
City of Duarte

**GLORIA MOLINA**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County

**MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
Councilmember  
City of Los Angeles

**LARRY ZARIAN**  
Councilmember  
City of Glendale

## LACTC COMMISSIONERS AND ALTERNATES

**MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH**  
Chair/Supervisor  
Los Angeles County  
NICK PATSAOURAS, Alt.

**RICHARD ALATORRE**  
Vice-Chair/Councilman  
City of Los Angeles  
HON. MICHAEL WOO, Alt.

**RAY GRABINSKI**  
Councilman  
City of Long Beach  
HON. DORIS TOPSY-ELVORD, Alt.

**EDMUND D. EDELMAN**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County  
MARVIN HOLEN, Alt.

**GLORIA MOLINA**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County  
GERRY HERTZBERG, Alt.

**YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County  
MAS FUKAI, Alt.

**DEANE DANA**  
Supervisor  
Los Angeles County  
DON KNABE, Alt.

**TOM BRADLEY**  
Mayor  
City of Los Angeles  
RAY REMY, Alt.

**JUDITH HATHAWAY-FRANCIS**  
Councilmember  
City of La Habra Heights  
HON. ROBERT J. ARTHUR, Alt.

**JACKI BACHARACH**  
Councilmember  
City of Rancho Palos Verdes  
HON. HAROLD CROYTS, Alt.

**JAMES L. TOLBERT**  
Citizen Representative  
City of Los Angeles

**JERRY B. BAXTER**  
Ex-Officio Member  
State of California

**NEIL PETERSON**  
Executive Director  
Los Angeles County  
Transportation Commission

Seeing Red — "Metro Moves" celebrates the opening of L.A.'s first modern subway, the Metro Red Line, by changing its color from blue to red.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
818 West Seventh Street, Suite 1100  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
213/623-1194  
LEADING THE WAY TO GREATER MOBILITY

Jim Walker  
Interurban Press  
P. O. Box 6444  
Glendale CA 91205

FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Santa Monica, CA  
Permit NO. 190