SCRTD LIBRARY VOLUME 2 . . . NUMBER 27 June 30, 1972

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT



Colorfully decorated Mini-buses enter a Chinatown shopping plaza to commemorate the opening of extension service to Chinatown and Olvera Street. (Additional photos Page 3)

# RTD Receives Federal Grant From UMTA For Technical Study In L. A.

RTD has received a matching federal grant from the Urban Mass Transportation Administration for a technical study of alternative rapid transit corridors in the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

Application for the \$600,000 grant, two-thirds of which is federally funded, was part of a regional application submitted to UMTA by the Southern California Association of Govern-

RTD management and staff preparing the application were George McDonald, manager of planning and marketing; John Curtis, manager of rapid transit and surface planning; Ralph de la Cruz, transportation planner; and Frank Barnes, assistant transportation planner.

UMTA also approved grants to the District for a San Bernardino Freeway Busway evaluation, a study of criteria for capital developments in the future, and participation in regional transit planning.

The corridor analysis, which is to take eight months, will analyze the respective advantages of each corridor with regards to rider and com-

# Mini-bus Service Up Nearly 50 % Since Service Extended

More and more commuters are forming the Mini-bus habit according to Jack R. Gilstrap, RTD general manager. "Patronage on the colorful, natural gas transit vehicles has increased by nearly 50 per cent since service was extended to Chinatown and the Olvera Street areas."

During the first two weeks of the expanded service, an average of 29,000 passengers per week traveled on the Minibuses.

The figures compare with patronage averaging 20,000 to 21,000 weekly in the weeks

# **Operators To Need Medical Certificate** With Drivers License

Effective May 3, 1972, Section 12804-C in the California Motor Vehicle Code was amended as follows:

Class 1 and Class 2 drivers licenses shall be valid for operating Class 1 and Class 2 vehicles only when a medical certificate is in the licenpossession and see's which has been issued within two years.

A person holding a valid Class 1 or Class 2 drivers license on the effective date of the amendments to this section may operate Class 1 or Class 2 vehicles without a medical certificate until such time as their present license expires.

The newly required medical certificate can be obtained at the time the required physical examination is given. The doctor will provide the certificate except under conditions that must be approved by the Department of Vehi-

# **RTD Starts Summer** Student Intern Program; **Graduate Students Used**

The District has inaugurated a student intern program to attract talented college and university students to the District who are interested in public service careers.

Six students were hired last week as part of the new program. They are: Henry Madrid, graduate student in public administration at UCLA; Frankie Lo, who graduated from Cal State-Polytechnic College in engineering, engineering graduate student in business administration at USC; Ronald Clute, graduate student in public finance at Long Beach State; Andrea Berman, graduate student in public administration at USC; Enrique "Rick" Ainsworth, USC public administration graduate who will be attending USC's Law School; and Eden Stewart who has his MA in organization and supervision from Loyola and will begin work on his PHD in the fall.

# **RTD Board Forms New Service** Review Board

Since official notice was given by the State Legislature, approving Senate Bill 325, the District has experienced a tremendous increase in requests for new service. For example, the District has received many requests for what amounts to door-to-door service, special service for the elderly, the disabled, the blind, the underprivileged, etc., and more than 40 requests for "Mini-bus service just like downtown."

Because of the tremendous increase, it becomes apparent that the District must have a uniform code for judging such requests and a central location to handle such requests.

To expedite new service requests a New Service Review Board was formed June 20 by the District's Board of Directors. They will give equal consideration to all geographic areas covered by RTD bus service.

According to George the direction of improvement of our total service for all citizens of the District's fourcounty operating area."

Any totally new service will be installed on a six month trial basis, with the idea that the line must have successful Continued on Page 2

The intern program was set up for senior or graduate level students - students capable of performing difficult work. It will assist them to learn the practical aspects of providing a public service and help develop public administrators familiar with public transit goals. It will also enable the District to complete needed projects that cannot be absorbed by the current staff.

As a pilot program the student intern program will be carefully monitored and evaluated. Recruitment for the program has consisted of contacting local colleges and universities including minority placement officers. Thirtynine candidates were screened by the Personnel Department in regards to their area of study and prior experience with graduate students preferred. Twenty-one candidates interested in public service careers and whose area of study was compatible with the work of a particular department were referred to department heads for their selection.

Henry Madrid is working in Goehler, manager of opera- the Operations Department tions, "This is another step in and will be involved in study and development of improved methods and procedures to implement District policy for the Economy and Efficiency Committee.

> Frankie Lo has been assigned to the Engineering Department and will be

Continued on Page 2

# RTD Superintendent Of Transportation Max Rise Succumbs



Transportation veteran Max Rise died June 20, 1972 at the California Hospital in downtown Los Angeles.

Funeral services were held June 22 at the Inglewood Cemetery where Rise was interred.

During his 35 years in public transportation Rise worked his way up from motorman with the Los Angeles Railway Company in 1937 to general superintendent of transportation with RTD in 1969.

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# Intern Program

involved in evaluating transit systems and proposals; assist in preliminary design of facility layouts and in preparing and planning diverse engineering projects.

Andrea Berman is assigned to the Personnel Department and will assist in the develop- operating status by the end of cles. In these instances the ment of in-house training the trial period or it will be programs as well as development of written personnel policies and procedures in which a new service has needed to develop an been installed will be given the employee manual.

has been assigned to the desire prior to the service as can be noted below. Both Legal-Insurance Section removal. The Board of Direcwhere he will research industrial accident statistics and assist in developing safety programs and perform a study of the District's Workmen's Compensation Program.

Ronald Clute is working in the Accounting & Fiscal Department, assisting in internal audit projects and review cost accounting and tor of governmental affairs, ling of any bus, any "farm requisition and vendor payments.

Planning Department where he will participate in both surplanning) and long range manager of planning & mar- than 6,000 pounds gross.

planning efforts. Examples of work Stewart could be asked to assist in are: computation of bus operating statistics, making bus route study maps, statistical research in Planning Department Library, etc. (See page 4 for photos of interns.)

# **Review Board**

removed.

However, cities or counties opportunity to pay for cost of Enrique "Rick" Ainsworth the operation — if they so between the two certificates tors allocated \$500,000 for such experimental service in the fiscal year 1972-73.

The members of the newly formed New Service Review Board are: George Goehler, George Heinle, assistant manager of operations as his alternate; Jack Stubbs, direcwith Bill Foster, administrative analyst, as his alternate; Eden Stewart is assigned to Joe Scatchard, controllerthe Rapid Transit and Surface treasurer-auditor, with Frank any three-axle house car, any Carr, assistant controllertreasurer-auditor, as his alterface planning (bus route nate; George McDonald, towing another vehicle less

keting, with Robert Scholl, director of public information, as his alternate; and Chris Dahlstrom, manager of the newly formed Customer Service Department as secretary to the Board.

#### License Change

person will take the results of his or her physical to the DMV examiner. At that time the examiner may issue the certificate.

There is a slight difference are yellow in color.

For employees not familiar with the classes of licenses the California Motor Vehicle Code explains them as fol-

Class 1 enables that person manager of operations, with to operate any combination of vehicles including all those under Class 2 and 3.

> Class 2 involves the handlabor truck," any single vehicle with three or more axles.

> Class 3 licenses involves two-axle vehicles, and any such house car or vehicle

# Operator Of The Year



YEAR'S TOP OPERATOR — Virgil O. Nesbitt of Highland Park receives plaque honoring him as RTD's "Operator of the Year" for 1971. Nesbitt was described as a man who "treats all his passengers as if they were VIP's" in a letter selected by a panel of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. Presenting the award is Thomas G. Neusom (right), vice president of the RTD Board of Directors, and W. Morton Jacobs, president of the Chamber and chief executive officer of the Gas Company. A 25-year transit professional with an outstanding safety record, Nesbitt operates buses on the 39 Line between Glendale and Los Angeles.

# AWARD WINNING TV PROGRAM "SERENDIPTY" VISITS RTD

Emmy winning TV program for children "SERENDIPITY" filmed one of its programs spotlighting RTD at Division 2 June 16



featuring RTD.



Serendipity cast arrive for filming of Sunday morning children's program RTD General Manager Jack R. Gilstrap welcomes host Rudy Medina and the six children who will appear with him.



As group walks to Mini-bus Gilstrap explains District's use of Mini-buses and their aid in environmental control.



During a question and answer period Gilstrap answers questions from the children regarding Mini-buses.



Mini-buses leave Olvera Street ceremonies for commemorative ceremonies at Chinatown.



Mariachi Band provides entertainment during Mini-bus caravan and at Olvera Street.



Encircling Mini-maid Yolanda Velarde and Councilman Gilbert W. Lindsay during colorful ceremonies celebrating the extension of Mini-bus service to Olvera Street and Chinatown are (from left) Jim Abernethy, RTD community relations coordinator; Jack R. Gilstrap, RTD general manager; Thomas G. Neusom and Leonard S. Gleckman, RTD Board of Directors; Assemblyman Alex P. Garcia (D-Los Angeles); Councilman Robert J. Stevenson; and David T. Chow, president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles.



Los Angeles City Councilman Gilbert W. Lindsey presents RTD Vice President Thomas G. Neusom with a plaque commemorating the inauguration of Mini-bus service to Chinatown and Olvera Street.







LEFT: Bill Hong, secretary for the Los Angeles Chinese Chamber of Commerce prepares a string of ceremonial firecrackers to commemorate Mini-bus extension to Chinatown. CENTER: Crowd moves back as firecrackers start exploding. Bystanders were protected from the firecrackers by a wire cage. RIGHT: Earshattering crescendo of exploding firecrackers caused many bystanders to cover their ears.

RTD FLYER

# Federal

munity benefits, socioeconomic impact, and environmental factors.

The final product of the study is a detailed capital grant application to UMTA which will make rapid transit a reality in the area.

# Mini-bus Service

preceding the expansion of the Mini-bus operation.

Gilstrap added, "The added patronage reflects the fact that the public is finding that Mini-buses offer a way to get around town quickly for only a dime while avoiding frayed nerves, dented fenders and high parking fees.

"And simultaneously the commuters are contributing to a better environment."

In addition to servicing the cultural, recreational and tourist attractions at Olvera Street and Chinatown, the Mini-buses link the civic center with Bunker Hill's high-rise office and apartment complex, and with the Central City's retail and commercial center.

### RETIREMENTS

Climaxing many years of work in the field of public transportation, the following District employees recently retired:

#### JOHNIE N. BROWN

Operator Emp. 5-24-40/RETIRED: 6-22-72 Years of Service: 32

# KERMIT G. CROWNOVER

Operator Emp. 7-2-29/RETIRED: 6-23-72 Years of Service: 42

## THEODORE ERCKERT

Stops & Zones Representative Emp. 2-20-67/RETIRED: 6-20-72 Years of Service: 4

# JOSE M. GONZALES

Road Janitor Leadman Emp. 7-22-33/RETIRED: 6-8-72 Years of Service: 38

## ROBERT JOHNSON

Storekeeper Emp. 3-21-46/RETIRED: 6-20-72 Years of Service: 26

## JOHN W. KIPP

Operator Emp. 9-4-36/RETIRED: 6-9-72 Years of Service: 35

## ROBERT M. MELTON

Operator Emp. 12-1-42/RETIRED: 6-17-72 Years of Service: 29

## HERMAN C. ROZENDAL

Instructor Emp. 5-23-41/RETIRED: 6-24-72 Years of Service: 31

# VITAL STATISTICS

In memorium to employees who have devoted much of their lifetime in a profession designed to move people.

# ALFRED F. CROSBY

Instructor 6-25-72/RETIRED: 7-1-65 Years of Service:45

## JOHN F. LILLEY

Flagman 6-5-72/RETIRED: 11-30-58 Years of Service: 15

## SAMUEL A. MAHONEY

Mechanic "A" 6-18-72/RETIRED: 1-1-68 Years of Service: 39

## **HENRY PHILLIPS**

Watchman 6-21-72/SPECIAL ROLL: 11-1-49 Years of Service: 29

## MAX L. RISE

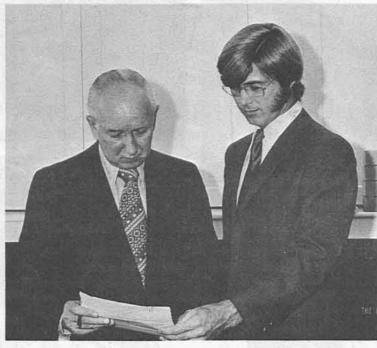
General Superintendent of Transportation 6-20-72/RETIRED: 6-4-72 Years of Service: 35



John Curtis, manager of rapid transit and surface planning, shows intern Eden Stewart RTD's Busway route and explains its use to ease freeway traffic.



Intern Frankie Lo shows his layout for TV monitors in RTD's Busway Station at El Monte to Don Gardner, senior electrical engineer for the Engineering Department.



Intern Ronald Clute goes over District accounts receivable bill with Tom Collins, assistant treasurer and cashier.

**RTD Directors** 

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President

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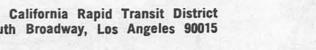
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equipment by Peter Drake, administrative analyst for the Operations Department.



Insurance Manager John Miller goes over industrial accident statistics with intern Enrique "Rick" Ainsworth who will assist Miller in preparing a safety program.



Johnny Johnston, superintendent of transportation, discusses the personnel policies of his department with intern Andrea Berman.

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CALIF