



NEWS

January 25, 1996

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MTA'S INTERIM CEO APPOINTS FOUR TO EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Joseph E. Drew, MTA's interim chief executive officer, has appointed four executive-level employees to ensure continuation of crucial agency programs.

Linda Bohlinger, an executive with 20 years of experience in transportation planning and programming, is appointed Interim Deputy Chief Executive Officer. For much of the past six years, Bohlinger has been responsible for directing rail transit, bus and highway capital planning, programming, grants management, benefit assessment district programs and long-range financial planning activities in her role as deputy executive officer of capital planning. She had just been appointed MTA's executive officer for planning programming before her new responsibilities were announced.

Before joining MTA, Bohlinger was deputy director for transit development for the California Transportation Commission in Sacramento. In that capacity, her responsibilities included state funding for such projects as Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), the San Diego Trolley, Sacramento Light Rail and Los Angeles Metro Rail. Prior to that, she was with the former Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) as the manager of highway programs.

Bohlinger holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a master's degree in public administration from the USC. She is an Altadena resident.

Patricia V. McLaughlin is appointed interim executive officer -- planning and programming, filling the position vacated by Bohlinger.

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McLaughlin began her transportation career with the former Southern California Rapid Transit District in 1975. Since May of 1993, McLaughlin has served as MTA's deputy executive officer for multimodal planning. She was responsible for rail, transit, and highway project planning and for the agency's joint development activities. Prior to that, she served as manager of transit programs, manager of local assistance and was director of the San Fernando Valley/North County area team with the former LACTC.

McLaughlin holds a bachelor's degree from Purdue University and a master's degree in planning from USC. She is active on the Transportation Research Board, where she chairs the Committee on Public Transportation Planning and Development. She has written several papers and spoken at numerous conferences on transportation planning and management topics.

James de la Loza is appointed interim deputy executive officer for multimodal programming, filling the vacancy left by McLaughlin's appointment. Mr. de la Loza has been with the MTA in various capacities since June of 1991, most recently as director of the Central Area Team, which is responsible for MTA planning in the central area of Los Angeles County. He also has served as project manager for the Eastside Corridor, the Metro Blue Line Downtown Connector, and the Exposition Park Branch Extension of the Metro Blue Line.

Prior to joining MTA, Mr. de la Loza served for six years as a project architect with the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles. He also worked for Gruen Associates and Sedway/Cooke from 1982 to 1985.

He obtained his bachelor's degree in environmental and industrial design from Cal State University -- Long Beach in 1979, followed by a master's degree in architecture and urban design from UCLA in 1982. He has lectured on architecture and urban design at USC, UCLA and at the Southern California Institute of Architecture.

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L.A. "Kim" Kimball is appointed the agency's new chief administrative officer. Kimball joined MTA at the time of its inception in April, 1993, and has served largely as a special assistant to the chief executive officer. He brings more than 30 years of public transportation experience from the around the nation. Before joining MTA, he was general manager of the Metropolitan Suburban Bus Authority in Garden City, N.Y., a subsidiary of New York City's MTA. During his seven-year tenure, he developed new bus-rail feeder service standards with the Long Island Rail Road to meet challenges of growing suburban congestion.

From 1964 to 1974, Kimball was assistant general manager of administration for BART. After his BART tenure, he served as administrator and deputy administrator for the Mass Transit Authority in Baltimore; the executive director/general manager for the Regional Transportation District in Denver; general manager for the Alameda Contra Costa County Transit District in Oakland, and chief transportation officer of surface operations for the New York City Transit Authority.

He received his undergraduate degree at the University of California at Berkeley in 1949, and earned master's degrees credits there through 1952. He is a member of several professional public transportation organizations, including the New York Public Transit Association and the American Public Transit Association (APTA).

"These four transportation professionals bring decades of experience to their new responsibilities," Drew said. "I look forward to working with them as we continue to plan and build Los Angeles County's transportation future."

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