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MTA'S GATEWAY BUILDING WINS GOLD NUGGET AWARD FOR BEST OFFICE/PROFESSIONAL BUILDING

The MTA's new headquarters Building-the Gateway--which opened last September, has won the best office/professional building (over 100,000 square feet) grand award at the 1996 Gold Nugget design competition. The Gold Nugget awards honor distinctive architecture and land planning in residential, commercial and industrial projects.

"We deliberately created a design that would invite people to use the transit center and encourage the use of public transportation," said Nick Patsaouras, chairman of the Union Station Gateway Board of Directors, which oversaw development of the headquarters and accompanying transit center. "The Gold Nugget Award, combined with the great public acceptance this building has enjoyed, tells me we achieved our goal."

The 28-story, 628,000 square foot headquarters tower was designed by the architectural firm of McLarand, Vasquez & Partners, of Costa Mesa, CA. The project was built by Charles Pankow Builders, of Altadena, CA, and jointly developed by the MTA and Catellus Development Corporation of Los Angeles.

"We're quite proud of this recognition for our new headquarters building," said Joe Drew, MTA Chief Executive Officer. "We achieved our goal of consolidating two separate rented facilities into one custom-built headquarters that we own, and in the process created one of the great public landmarks of Los Angeles."

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