

SUBJECT: Recognition of Improved Safety Culture

2013-07
RECOGNITION
BY THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, in his report to the Board in January 2011, the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer set forth a work plan for Metro to achieve its goal of improving safety; and

WHEREAS, six months later, Metro's progress in safety was acknowledged and staff was encouraged to "keep it up" by those who once criticized and admonished the organization; and

WHEREAS, staff over the past two years has continued to align priorities around safety and there is a visible change in the safety culture; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, staff met the established target of "less than 5.3" injuries per 200,000 work hours with an Employee Injury Rate of 5.04, which was 3% lower than 2011's rate; and

WHEREAS, also in 2012, there was a 10% reduction in the customer injury rate, 1.87 injuries per million passengers; and

WHEREAS, with the closing of all the 2010 Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) Audit findings and the current FTA audit recognizing the closure of over 300 open accident investigations, Metro is now current with its accident investigations; and

WHEREAS, last year all Corrective Action Plans were generated from internal sources evidence of the growth of Metro's internal safety audit program; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Department conducts both classroom and field training at all Metro facilities and during various shifts; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, 213 safety training classes were offered to 5,384 employees in topics from CPR/AED, Incident Investigations, Body Mechanics to OSHA compliance; and

WHEREAS, the staff in the Safety Department continue their professional development through programs sponsored by various national safety organizations such as the Federal Transportation Administration, American Society of Quality and National Safety Council; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's improvements to the process of data collection and analysis has produced technology such as the Safety Measurement System and SafeStat, which has garnered interest from other transit properties and the FTA; and

WHEREAS, the organization is addressing the workforce issue of fatigue and is committed to identifying an agency-wide approach to its prevention and a reduction to its affects; and

WHEREAS, Metro's recent success and achievements in safety are the result of the actions and commitment of each member of the workforce and its advancement is dependent on the continued dedication of every Metro employee; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors recognizes Metro's considerable progress in safety over the past two years; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors extends its sincere appreciation to all Metro employees for all their hard work to improve Metro's safety culture; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors encourages all Metro employees to build upon their recent achievements so that they continue cultivating a successful safety culture.



Tom Downs, Chair