

October 20, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman and Members of the Board

SUBJECT: October Board Digest

Trash Cans Return to Station Platforms

Trash cans returned to station platforms last month as part of our initiative to enhance cleanliness throughout the system. The installation of the new bomb-containment bins began on the Red Line, the most heavily traveled rail line. With the initial order of 192 trash cans currently being delivered and installed, and an additional procurement of 14 trash cans in process, we expect to place new bomb-containment bins on all station platforms by the end of the year. We removed platform trash bins as a security precaution following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Since their removal, employees and customers have noted more trash in stations and rail cars. In 2002, explosion containment trash cans were purchased and placed in the unpaid areas of the stations. This year, we purchased new bomb-containment trash cans and placed them on stations platform in an effort to keep rail cars and stations cleaner, and reduce the risk of debris falling onto the tracks and potentially starting fires.

Later this month, we will begin a public information campaign to encourage customers and employees to keep Metro litter-free by using the trash receptacles and newspaper recycling bins throughout the system. The "Don't Trash Metro" campaign will raise awareness among Metrobus and Metrorail customers about the importance of recycling trash and to instill a sense of ownership and pride where customers want to keep their system clean. The campaign will include in-system bus and rail advertising, messages in *The Express* newspaper, station and system announcement, postings on the Web site, and outreach efforts to area schools and shopping malls. Communications efforts in support of "Don't Trash Metro" will be made in Spanish and English.

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MTPD to Get Up to Three Explosives-Detection Dogs Through TSA Program

The Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD) is expected to get up to three explosive-detection dogs through a Transit Security Administration (TSA) canine program. Metro is one of 10 mass transit and commuter rail systems in the United States participating in the TSA National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program for transit agencies. The TSA already has trained more than 350 teams of explosive detection canines and handlers for the nation's airports. This is the first large scale expansion to other modes of transportation.

MTPD officers will attend a 10-week TSA training program at the Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio, Texas, where they will meet their new dogs and learn various dog handling and search techniques. When the officers return to the Washington metropolitan region, they will go through proficiency training in the Metro system to familiarize the dogs with the sights, sounds smells, and peculiarities of the bus and rail system. The dogs must be accustomed to working inside buildings and outdoors, walking on escalators, coping with crowds, and entering and exiting trains and buses. After about a month of additional training in the Metro system, the TSA will certify the canine teams.

Under the program, TSA will provide Metro with the dogs, training, yearly evaluations, and partial reimbursement to cover costs associated with the program, including salaries, veterinary care and dog food. Metro provides officers who will be devoted to the canine teams. The program is being paid for by a \$2 million congressional appropriation and \$700,000 in earmarked TSA funding.

Town Hall Meeting to Take Place in DC on November 9

As part of our ongoing efforts to improve communications with our customers, we will hold a Town Hall Meeting in the District of Columbia on November 9 at the Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center. This meeting, our third this year, will give customers an opportunity to express their comments, concerns and ideas about Metro directly to the Board of Directors and Metro staff. The town hall meeting format provides an open forum for customers and is part of our ongoing efforts to engage customers in dialogue about a broad range of issues related to service, funding and long-term plans. Additionally, this format will enable us to

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articulate the unique challenges that face Metro and motivate our customers to advocacy.

As in the past, the meeting will be preceded by an Open House featuring exhibits on construction, ADA programs, funding issues, planned improvements in bus, rail, and escalator/elevator programs, and more. The open house will begin at 6 p.m. and the town hall program will start at 7 p.m. We are pleased to announce that former U.S. Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater will serve as the meeting moderator.

Metro held its first Town Hall Meeting in November 2004. Its success spurred the three meetings in 2005 in each jurisdiction—Virginia in April, Maryland in September and the District of Columbia next month.

Metro Job Fair Held in Washington, D.C.

Metro hosted a career and education fair on Friday, October 7, in Washington, D.C., for individuals seeking employment. More than 5,000 individuals showed up at the site in Adams Morgan to speak with Metro employees and learn about career opportunities at the transit agency. Job seekers were able and apply for a variety of jobs, including bus operators, bus and rail mechanics, rail car cleaners, laborers, janitors, cleaner/shifters, and positions with the Metro Transit Police Department. During the 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. career and education fair, we took in nearly 5,000 job applications. The career and education fair is one strategy being used to fill job vacancies and diversify WMATA's employment applicant pool.

Upcoming Events

October 21

Metro LunchTalk Online, chat session at metroopensdoors.com, noon.

October 22

Metrobus Roadeo competition for bus operators, maintenance teams and bus transportation supervisors; Landover Metrobus Division; 7 a.m.

October 29

Completion of the New Carrollton Yard expansion and new parking facility at the New Carrollton Metrorail station; [ceremonial ribbon cutting date to be determined]

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October 30

Metrorail early opening (5 a.m.) in support of the Marine Corps Marathon. The race begins at 8:15 a.m. in Arlington near the Iwo Jima Monument; Rosslyn and Arlington Cemetery Metrorail stations are closest to the start of the marathon; Metro will open at 5 a.m.

November 2

Public hearing with the District of Columbia government on the proposed relocation of bus and related station facilities, and a parking reduction at the Takoma Metrorail station; Trinity Episcopal Church, 7005 Piney Branch Road, NW, Washington, D.C.; 6 p.m.

November 4

Metro LunchTalk Online, chat session at metroopensdoors.com, noon.

November 9

FTA Quarterly Review; 10 a.m.

Town Hall Meeting and Open House, Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, 2000 14th Street, NW, Washington, D.C.; U St/African-Amer Civil War Memorial–Cardozo Metrorail station. Open House begins at 6 p.m. Town Hall begins at 7 p.m.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you.

Richard A. White
General Manager and Chief Executive Officer