



Executive Director's Report

March 30, 2009

CALIFORNIA UPDATE

CalACT Honors DeMartino as Transportation Manager of the Year

Our congratulations go out to Donna DeMartino, General Manager/CEO of San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) and a member of the Association's Executive Committee. At its 25th Anniversary Spring Conference, the California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT) awarded Donna its Transportation Manager of the Year Award. CalACT gives this prestigious award to a transportation manager for his/her outstanding leadership, achievements, and contributions to the public and the industry. Donna was nominated and selected by her peers in the public transportation industry. In 2007, RTD received the Outstanding Transportation Agency Award from CalACT.

Kenan Named Interim CEO at OCTA

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) board announced today that Jim Kenan, executive director of finance and administration and long-time veteran of the transportation field, has been named interim chief executive officer. Kenan will take over as the board begins searching for a permanent replacement for Art Leahy, who departed OCTA after eight years to head the Los County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. As OCTA's executive director of finance and administration Kenan directs and manages OCTA's financial and administrative services, treasury/public finance, information technology services and contracting activities for the OCTA. Kenan has been with OCTA since 1979. Congratulations and welcome to Jim Kenan.

CALPIRG Report Highlights Projects to "Connect California"

As state and regional governments decide how to spend an influx of stimulus dollars on transportation projects, a new report by the California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG) Education Fund highlights the opportunities for California to significantly expand public transportation. The report, *Connecting California: Key Public Transportation Projects and Their Benefits for the Golden State*, lists a selection of rapid bus, light rail, heavy rail, and subway projects sorely needed to keep California moving. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided more than \$46 billion for transportation projects, including more than \$17 billion specifically for public transportation. As this report shows, opportunities abound to invest in public transportation. Some of the projects listed in this report could be ready to go within a few months. Others, will take more time to get the tracks on the ground. No matter the time line, voters clearly signaled support for public transportation at the ballot box last November, supporting eight different local and statewide ballot measures for public transit expansions. [Click here](#) to read the full report.

ASSOCIATION NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Advocates Turn Out in Force for Transit Lobby Day

More than 70 transit advocates rallied in Sacramento last week to take part in the Association's annual Transit Lobby Day. Participants conducted face-to-face meetings with 95 legislative offices and other state officials to make the case for righting the wrongs inflicted on public transit in the latest state budget agreement. Thanks go out to all those who made the trek to the Capitol, and to our Association staff members whose many long hours helped to make the event such a success.

April 29 Webinar to Focus on Terminal Inspections

Our newest interactive webinar presentation has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 29 at 8 a.m. The presentation, hosted by the Association's [Maintenance Committee](#), will examine CHP's annual Terminal Inspections. This special webinar examines the Inspection process from the perspective of experienced transit professionals, as well as from the lead CHP officer overseeing the program. Join us to learn how your peers handle the process. Get advice from CHP leadership on how to best be prepared. The presentation will conclude with a Question-and-Answer session. [Click here](#) for more details.