

MST HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 10, 2009 BOARD MEETING

JULY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

The MST Board adopted Resolution 2010-01 recognizing Benjamin Newman, Risk and Security Manager, as Employee of the Month for July 2009. Ben has managed MST's claims in a manner that has kept the agency's cost down and has provided both courteous and professional assistance to those where MST has been responsible for damage or injury. In addition to his regular duties, Ben completed a two-year course of study which earned him a professional certification in Risk Management. He has provided tremendous assistance to almost every police force in MST's our local jurisdictions. In one case, Ben assisted in identifying a graffiti vandal, helped locate a missing elderly person and identified persons who assaulted an individual at one of our stops.

AUGUST EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

The MST Board adopted Resolution 2010-02 recognizing Michael Gallant, Planning Manager, as Employee of the Month for August 2009. Last year, Mike signed the Naval Post-Graduate School to support two new transit lines. Since its implementation in September of 2008, ridership on these NPS buses has increased from 840 during the first month to 2,224 in April of 2009. Building on his experiences and knowledge gained from the NPS program, Mike turned to the Presidio of Monterey (POM) and began negotiating with them to implement new transit lines serving the base. Most importantly, he secured full funding (approximately \$1.5 million per year) through the Federal Transit Benefit for these eleven new lines at a time when most transit agencies are cutting service and laying off people. In fact, his efforts enabled the agency to hire approximately 20 additional drivers for the NPS and DLI services.

OCCLINK FOR WORKER'S COMPENSATION EMPLOYER-BASED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The MST Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to enter into a contract with Occlink to provide a specialized Employer Based Worker's Compensation Management Program for one year with two, one-year performance –based extension options with the first year at \$186,000.

Occlink will provide the development and implementation of a customized, state approved Medical Provider Network, a customized web-based claims management system, and vendor management protocols and support with the ultimate goal of controlling and reducing expenses associated with Workers Compensation.

MOORE & ASSOCIATES TO CONDUCT PASSENGER AND NON-PASSENGER SURVEYS

The MST Board awarded a contract to Moore & Associates for \$29,925 to conduct passenger and non-passenger surveys. Public transit agencies regularly conduct passenger and non-passenger surveys to gauge opinions of customers and to find out information about those individuals who do not currently take public transit. This data can then be used to improve services for existing passengers as well as to increase ridership by marketing MST more effectively to non-riders.

PERMIT & FEE BUDGET FOR FRANK J. LICHTANSKI MONTEREY BAY OPERATIONS CENTER

The MST Board: 1) received an update on the budget status for the Frank J. Lichtanski, Monterey Bay Operations Center; 2) authorized a budget in the amount of \$3,450,000 for the Permitting phase of the project; and 3) authorized staff to pursue financing options for the Permitting, Construction, and Move-In project phases.

CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH SAND CITY

The MST Board approved the proposal from Sand City regarding transfer of maintenance responsibilities for Edgewater Transit Exchange from MST to City. The amended arrangement for maintenance of the shelters is consistent with the other major transfer locations including Del Monte Center and Northridge Mall.

TEMPORARY FARE REDUCTION PROMOTION

The MST Board approved a temporary reduction in MST's base cash fares of 25 cents (15 cents for discount fare) beginning September 5, 2009 and ending on or before May 29, 2010. In February of 2009, Congress passed and the President signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which has provided MST funding over the next two years. In an effort to pass on the value of MST's ARRA funds to its customers, staff is proposing a temporary fare reduction that would apply to cash fares paid by fixed-route passengers at the farebox. In addition, a corresponding 25 cents per zone temporary reduction in RIDES cash fares will go into effect. No other passes or fare media would be eligible for the discount.