MST HIGHLIGHTS
MARCH 16, 2009 BOARD MEETING

MARCH EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
The MST Board adopted Resolution 2009-20 recognizing Jose Rojas, Coach Operator, as Employee of the Month for March 2009. On January 25, 2008 Jose was proceeding east on Alisal St. in Salinas with five passengers aboard when a vehicle ran a red light, moving directly in the path of the coach. Jose reacted instantly by initiating an emergency stop, narrowly avoiding a collision with the SUV, which was occupied by at least three individuals. After bringing the coach to a stop, Jose immediately turned his attention to his passengers to ensure that none had been injured during the incident.

RETIREMENT
The MST Board presented Emerito Noza, Coach Operator, with an award for 8 years of service upon his retirement.

RIDES VEHICLES PURCHASE
The MST Board authorized the purchase of seven medium-sized (mini) buses from Bus West, Inc. for fleet replacement in the MST RIDES program. These vehicles will be purchased through the Caltrans FY 2008 Federal 5310 procurement program. The 5310 program is a competitive program which provided 88.53% of the vehicle funding. MST is responsible for the remaining 11.47% of the vehicle cost or $6,641 per bus.

CONTINGENCY AND ADDITIONAL DESIGN BUDGET FOR FJL FACILITY
The MST Board: 1) authorized a contingency budget for the new Frank J. Lichtanski Monterey Bay Operations Center in the amount of $387,000 for all Architectural & Engineering related expenses, including fees, permits, and special inspections; and 2) authorized up to $337,000 for new site and design related expenses for Whispering Oaks.

MST RIDES VEHICLES PURCHASE
The Board authorized the purchase of four medium-sized (mini) buses from Bus West, Inc. for fleet expansion of the MST RIDES Program at a cost of $231,580.

MST has 26 vehicles in the MST RIDES fleet, some of which have over 300,000 miles. MV Inc. uses up to 25 MST buses in RIDES service and periodically back-fills service requirements with up to an additional 3 sedans from their own fleet. There are currently an insufficient number of vehicles for RIDES service requirements. The cost of each vehicle is $57,895, not including a State procurement fee of 2.27%. MST received a Federal New Freedoms Grant for this purchase in the amount $196,400.