MAY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
The MST Board adopted Resolution 2009-23 recognizing Frank Betancourt, Coach Operator, as Employee of the Month for May 2009. Frank began his career as a Coach Operator in October 2004. A recent recipient of a three year consecutive Safe Driving award and a 2007 attendance award for perfect attendance, Frank continues to be a valued asset to the agency. Recently, Frank completed a six month tour of duty as an Interim Operations Supervisor providing added support to the Operations Department when it was needed most. Many employees have been very positive in their comments with respect to Frank’s level of cooperation and professionalism while he served in that role.

DISCOUNT TICKET BOOKS FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES
The MST Board approved a 10% discount on sales of regular-fare ticket books for social service agencies on purchases beyond a single purchase of 10 regular-fare ticket books at the full $50 price. The discount would not apply to ticket books that are already discounted 50% for passengers 65 and older or 18 and younger, passengers with disabilities, and passengers of any age with a Medicare card. The new discount would take effect July 1, 2009.

CLEAN AIR MONTH
The MST Board adopted Resolution 2009-25 declaring May 2009 as Clean Air Month in the Monterey Bay region.

FY 2009 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS
The MST Board: 1) conducted a public hearing for FY 2009 Program of Projects; 2) adopted the FY 2009 Program of Projects; and 3) authorized the filing of the appropriate grant applications with the Federal Transit Administration and CalTrans.

AB644 UPDATE – MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT DISTRICT
The MST Board approved revisions to the language of AB644 (Caballero). The amended language is summarized as follows: 1) Effective July 1, 2010 all cities and the County of Monterey will become members of the MST Rapid Transit District board; 2) All members will provide their public transportation-related funds to MST; and 3) If approved by the District Board of Directors, the new District will have the ability to place tax measures directly on the ballot for a vote by the electorate of Monterey County, and the District will have the ability to issue bonds to raise funds for construction of facilities.
MOA – PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY-DLI COMMUTER BUS SERVICES
The MST Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Presidio of Monterey for new commuter bus services for the Presidio of Monterey.

The US Army had approached MST to operate weekday commuter bus service to help alleviate substantial traffic problems affecting the Presidio of Monterey-DLI beginning in the fall of 2009. Eight new commuter bus routes have been developed to assist the US Army with this effort. Most of the new bus routes will be duplicating existing bus service thus providing necessary supplemental service to the Monterey Peninsula, Salinas area, and San Jose. All new Presidio of Monterey bus routes will be open to the general public. The current MST fare structure will apply (including zone charges, when applicable) to all of the new routes. The new bus service will begin Monday, July 6, 2009. The new bus service will be fully paid for by the US Army via a special federal program (Mass Transit Benefit/Transportation Incentive Program) through the Department of Transportation at a cost of $1,150,000.

PURCHASE TWO GILLIG BUSES
The MST Board authorized MST to exercise the option to purchase two buses through the San Mateo County Transit (SamTrans) contract with Gillig Corporation at a cost not to exceed $890,000.

These new vehicles will be used as expansion fleet as service on the long commuter routes will be expanding.