



Behind the Scenes

Executive Director's Report

The Board of Directors met on December 9, 2024. The Board approved the following:

- > The Board calendar for 2025, reappointments to the Community Advisory Committee and an update to the Agency's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan.
- > The Board extended the Northern Region service provider contract with MV Transportation through July 2027.
- > The Board also received an update from its local, state and federal legislative advocates.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for January 27, 2025.

Andre Colaiace
Executive Director

The California Transit Association (CTA) 59th Annual Fall Conference & Expo



Access Board Members Doran Barnes, Lee Burner, Martin Gombert, and several Access staff attended the California Transit Association's 59th Annual Fall Conference and Expo in San Jose, California. Nearly 800 transit professionals from across the United States enjoyed three days of educational programming. The three-day program featured two general sessions, over 20 concurrent sessions, and two tech tours. There were several informative presentations about the future of the transit industry in California.

This year's conference included important discussions about several critical areas (zero-emission transition, public safety, operator safety, service improvements, workforce diversity). World-renowned transit network consultant and author Jarrett Walker, PhD, gave a riveting presentation on the challenges and potential solutions facing transit in California.

In 2025, the California Transit Association's 60th Anniversary Fall Conference & Expo will be hosted by Long Beach Transit, in Long Beach, California.

Randy Johnson
Director, Government Affairs & Outreach

Staff attend orientation at Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center



The Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center (LACEOC) is located on a hill in City Terrace, offering a commanding view of much of the County. The staff at the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management work daily to maintain readiness and respond to both disasters and planned events.

As the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), I have frequently been in the well-equipped situation room at the heart of the County's EOC. This room serves as the central hub for managing emergencies and planned events, coordinating various aspects of the response. There are workstations for each part of the Incident Command System, including Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance, all reporting to the Incident Commander, who sits at the front of the tiered room, facing the staff. The purpose of attending an orientation was to ensure I was up to date with EOC operations at the County facility.

Experienced OEM staffer Jeremy Harris briefed attendees on upcoming changes, including the future use of a new LACEOC status reporting system. This system will be used by County departments and partners to report the impact of emergencies on their operations. The event was one of many efforts to ensure Access stays engaged with the local Emergency Management Community, helping us achieve our mission of keeping Access up and running for the community.

During the visit, I acquired a large quantity of hard copies of the Los Angeles County Emergency Survival Guide. These guides have already started being distributed among Agency staff and contractors. You can obtain one by searching for "Los Angeles Emergency Survival Guide" on Google for an electronic copy or by calling 211 and asking for a hard copy. It is a highly recommended preparedness resource.

Alex Chrisman
Emergency Management Coordinator

Commendations

"Juanita with MV reservations was really nice on the phone and helped me with booking my reservation by suggesting times to help me get to my destination. Juanita always goes above and beyond to assure me that I get the best time. Whenever I book with Juanita my rides always run smooth."

Laurence Crismond
Rider since November 2001

"Matt is an exceptional driver. Very accommodating. Great overall guy, really appreciated him."

Merla Johnson
Rider since January 2012