

Congratulations

Rita Robinson Is New GM of Transportation



■ Club Board Member named to top job.

TRANSPORTATION — Rita Robinson – a 30-year City veteran known for her effective and aggressive leadership, and a City Employees Club Board Member – was named General Manager of Transportation.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa announced the leadership change Sept. 28. The previous General Manager, Gloria Jeff, took the position in March 2006.

Robinson will take command of the City's third largest department and will be responsible for the development and implementation of traffic reduction programs and solutions in Los Angeles.

"Rita Robinson is an effective and aggressive leader who is the right person to tackle one of the City's toughest challenges, reducing traffic gridlock," Mayor Villaraigosa said. "In her more than 30 years of public service, Rita has demonstrated exceptional leadership in handling major projects

and bringing them in on-time and on-budget."

Robinson was named director of the City's Bureau of Sanitation in January 2004, where she brought leadership to an agency that provides Los Angeles with some of the most fundamental City services. The Bureau of Sanitation has more than 2,800 employees, a budget of \$240 million and oversees trash collection, recycling, wastewater and sewage treatment.

Robinson modernized the Bureau of Sanitation making it more effective, efficient and environmentally friendly. Under Robinson's leadership, the Bureau of Sanitation can be credited with:

- Expanding recycling services to over a half million residents in Los Angeles bringing the city's recycling rate to 62 percent - the highest of any large city in the nation.
- Increasing the number of clean fuel trash-collection trucks by 20 percent, which in one year alone (2006), has reduced the emission of greenhouse gases by 40 percent.
- Decreasing sewage spills by 53 percent, to 207 a year from 444.
- Implemented the nation's first project to produce green energy from a renewable bio-resource. When fully operational, the TIRE project will produce approximately 3,500 kilowatts of renewable energy.
- Expanding restaurant food-waste collection from 10 to 150 restaurants, which now recycles approximately 8,000 tons of food-waste per year.
- Increased the City's Wastewater Revenue Bond Rating to the highest rating, allowing more taxpayer dollars to go programs instead of interest payments.

The City Employees Club congratulates Rita on her achievement.

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About Rita Robinson

Rita L. Robinson was appointed Interim General Manager of Transportation in September. She brings more than 30 years of government expertise to help find solutions to the traffic challenges that face the nation's second-largest city.

Ms. Robinson is responsible for the day-to-day operations of more than 2000 employees whose mission is to provide for the safe and optimal mobility of people and goods throughout the City to support economic activity and desirable quality of life. With the Transportation team, other transportation agencies and community partnerships, she will succeed in meeting the Department's mission.

Her main focus is to support initiatives that will result in congestion relief, short- and long-range local/regional transportation planning and acquisition of funding to implement those projects. Other improvements planned include expansion and upgrade of the Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control system (ATSAC), installation of additional traffic intersection signals, increasing vehicle turning lanes and left-turn signals, installation of more visible, modern signage, and the construction of new speed humps.

Before her appointment, Ms. Robinson directed the Public Works Bureau of Sanitation, which has 3,000 employees and the mission to protect public health and the environment through legal, efficient and effective collection, treatment, reuse and disposal of liquid and solid wastes.

As Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, Ms. Robinson managed a budget of \$260 million in both General Fund and Special Funds.

Prior to becoming the Bureau of Sanitation's Director in January 2004, Ms. Robinson served as interim General Manager of Housing for one year and as interim General Manager of Transportation for six months.

As Interim General Manager of Housing, Ms. Robinson directed a staff of approximately 500 employees responsible for housing production, rehabilitation, and preservation. The Department also administers the City's Rent Stabilization Ordinance and Code Enforcement Program. Ms. Robinson's major accomplishments as Interim General Manager included the development of the implementation plan for the use of the \$100 million Affordable Housing Trust Fund approved by the Mayor and City Council for additional housing opportunities within the City.

While serving as Interim General Manager of Transportation, Ms. Robinson directed a staff of 1,500 full-time and 500 part-time professional, engineering, field and clerical employees responsible for the development of programs and implementation of solutions to meet the ground transportation needs of the traveling public, as well as everyday commerce.

Ms. Robinson, a longtime resident of Southern California and a 1975 graduate of Scripps College in Claremont, is a 30-year City employee and has served in a number of capacities in Los Angeles City government, including the Office of the City Administrative Officer, Rec and Parks, and Community Development.

She is also a Board Member for the City Employees Club of Los Angeles. The Club was founded in 1928 to provide employee insurance benefits and is now a membership organization. It now offers discounted tickets, officially licensed city merchandise, and other benefits and services.