



LONG BEACH TRANSIT

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Long Beach Transit Welcomes New Board Chair and Directors *Newest Directors Add Diverse Knowledge to Transit Board*

LONG BEACH, CALIF. (January 26, 2012) – At its annual election meeting, the Long Beach Transit Board of Directors elected Barbara Sullivan-George as the new Board Chair, Dr. Freda Hinsche Otto as Vice-Chair and Lori Ann Farrell as Secretary-Treasurer, and three new Board Directors; Donald First, Maricela de Rivera and Victor Irwin.

Board Chair Barbara Sullivan-George originally joined the Long Beach Transit Board in 2007 and was appointed for a full 4-year term on January 1, 2009. She has extensive background in human resources, community advocacy and business. Sullivan-George has guided Fortune 500 companies while championing the rights of small businesses. She is among the few individuals to receive the coveted NAACP-Legal Defense Fund's Black Woman of Achievement Award.

"I'm proud to be a part of leading one of the finest transit agencies in the country. With our new CNG fleet arriving, and three new Board members, it's going to be an exciting year for Long Beach Transit," said Sullivan-George.

Donald First joins the board with over 30 years of experience in the Long Beach Police Department, retiring as Commander in 2000. He owns and manages multiple local residential income properties and enjoys traveling and fishing. First has been a Long Beach resident for over 40 years and spends a lot of time participating in neighborhood events with his wife. Maricela de Rivera is a Long Beach resident and avid bus rider. She has served on the Public Affairs team at the Long Beach Airport and as a volunteer Public Information Officer for the American Red Cross. She has also volunteered for Leadership Long Beach, Long Beach Rescue Mission and the Special Olympics. De Rivera is now a proud full-time mother of a 16-month-old boy. Victor Irwin has lived in Long Beach for 25 years and spent the majority of his career in the furniture manufacturing business. After moving to the area, he started his own high-end furniture small business which grew into a company with three Southern California locations. Irwin likes to spend his free time on the golf course, playing for leisure and competition.

About Long Beach Transit

Long Beach Transit serves over 27.8 million boarding customers in Long Beach, Lakewood and Signal Hill—as well as portions of Artesia, Bellflower, Carson, Cerritos, Compton, Hawaiian Gardens, Norwalk, Paramount and Seal Beach—with regular bus and shuttle services including the Passport, AquaBus, and AquaLink. For more information visit

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