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MTD BOARD HONORS TWO LONGTIME EMPLOYEES

The Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) Board of Directors recently honored two longtime employees, Jose Bautista and Bob Burnham.

For 30 years, Jose Bautista has worked as a Utility Technician in MTD's maintenance department. Not only does he work on buses and shuttles, he has also worked many years diligently installing exterior bus ads for MTD advertisers. His dedication and willingness to work until each job is completed satisfactorily has endeared Jose to many advertisers over the years. Mr. Bautista's dedication to his job inspired his daughter Diana to join MTD - she has now worked at the district for 15 years, currently in the Accounting department.

Robert (Bob) Burnham has retired after 30 years at MTD. With all of Mr. Burnham's community service, as well as his uncanny attention to the minute details of MTD's routes and schedules, most people Bob has assisted at the MTD call center would be stunned to learn that Bob Burnham is completely blind. He started at MTD with GM Robert Yaco, stated former board member Lee Moldaver. "The three general managers Bob worked for all had the same attitude about Bob – they did not think about what Bob couldn't do, but what Bob *could* do." Bob thanked the Board and MTD staff for all that he learned during his 30 years.

The Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD), with its focus on passenger service, provides a reliable, safe and comfortable means of mobility to those who lack other transportation, including students, seniors and individuals with disabilities. MTD also provides an attractive transportation option for commuters and shoppers who might otherwise drive a car. MTD provides more than 27,000 passenger trips each weekday resulting in 22,676 cars being left at home on weekdays. MTD provided almost 8,000,000 passenger trips last fiscal year. Santa Barbara is recognized as a transit MTD operates North America's largest fleet of 100% battery electric buses. Additionally, MTD was the first in California to operate its fleet of diesel and diesel-electric buses with a bio-diesel blend of fuel.

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