



# news

DATE: August 8, 2002

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NEW BIG BLUE BUS DIRECTOR NAMED**

### **Interim Director Stephanie Negriff Accepts Permanent Post**

**Santa Monica, CA**—After an extensive national search, local transit executive Stephanie Negriff has been named Director of Transit Services for the City of Santa Monica, home of the Big Blue Bus.

“One of your own will direct the Big Blue Bus in coming years,” said City Manager Susan E. McCarthy, announcing the appointment to Santa Monica’s transit employees. “Stephanie is committed to the tradition of efficient operation and excellent customer service that characterize the Big Blue Bus and I look forward to working closely with her in the years ahead.”

With 24 years’ experience in rapid transit, including stints with transit agencies in Austin, Texas, St. Louis, Missouri and Oklahoma City before joining the Big Blue Bus in 1986, Negriff has been serving as Big Blue Bus interim director since October 2001 when former director John Catoe left to take the number two position at the L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

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## **NEGRIFF APPOINTED**

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“Stephanie will build on the accomplishments of two distinguished prior leaders of the Big Blue Bus [Jack Hutchison preceded Catoe],” said McCarthy, “and her appreciation for all aspects of our transit system will serve her well in defining the future of the Big Blue Bus.” Negriff served in various capacities, including assistant director for operations, manager of transit development and intergovernmental relations and assistant director of operations-administration, before being named interim director last year.

"The Big Blue Bus has a tradition of excellence and I am honored to have been chosen to lead this quality organization," said Negriff. "Our future will continue to be driven by our values of customer service, integrity, teamwork, innovation and continuous improvement. On this foundation, we will raise our transit system to even greater heights."

Negriff, who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accountancy from California State University, Northridge and has post-graduate training in leadership, human relations and transit management, is active in the American Public Transit Association (APTA). APTA has honored Santa Monica with its “Public Transportation System Outstanding Achievement Award” four times during Negriff’s tenure with the Big Blue Bus.

The Big Blue Bus operates a fleet of 183 vehicles transporting more than 75,000 passengers daily across a 51.4 square mile service area. Providing award-winning service to Santa Monica and the Los Angeles area since 1928, the Big Blue Bus has won awards for everything from its website to customer service orientation and has operated with a 97% on-time performance record. The Big Blue Bus also operates paratransit services and the electric TIDE Shuttle. For more information, contact customer service at 310-451-5444, TDD 310-395-6024 or [www.BigBlueBus.com](http://www.BigBlueBus.com).

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