

To: MTD Board of Directors  
From: Jerry Estrada, General Manager  
Date: March 17, 2026  
Subject: General Manager's Report

### *Operations and Fleet Maintenance*

Congratulations to Operator Manny Ruiz on successfully completing training and beginning revenue service. Operator-in-Training Dom Winston completed Commercial Class B DMV testing and is now training with senior Operators to learn routes and further develop his commercial driving skills.

Mechanic Mike Ortiz recently completed 32 hours of brake systems training in Los Angeles through the California Transit Training Consortium (CTTC). The Brakes I course introduced foundation brake systems, covering basic theory and physics, inspection and maintenance procedures, troubleshooting, and repair. The Brakes II course focused on the principles of operation, construction, and repair of transit bus air brake and accessory systems, as well as preventive maintenance practices and applicable legal requirements.

### *Capital Projects*

#### Haley Canopy ZEV Infrastructure Improvements Project

Smith MEP finalized the ChargePoint equipment installation in preparation for charger commissioning, which is scheduled to occur the week of March 16. The charging equipment commissioning is performed by ChargePoint; and, if successful, will result in fully operational Level 2 and Level 3 chargers. The Smith MEP team has also completed the cellular repeater installations at the Maintenance Canopy and at the Haley Canopy. The repeaters will enhance the cellular signal to the ChargePoint charging equipment at both locations for improved connectivity. Additionally, Smith MEP's paint subcontractor, New Generation, has completed the paint scope and is performing touch-up.

#### Acquisition of 8 Gillig Battery Electric Buses and Chargers (TIRCP)

The first of eight Gillig battery-electric buses entered the production line at Gillig's factory in Livermore, California on March 10. It is anticipated to be delivered to MTD the last week of March. The remaining seven buses are scheduled to enter production throughout the month of March, with the last anticipated delivery to MTD in mid-April. As they move through the production line, they are inspected by an MTD-hired third-party in-plant inspector from Vehicle Technical Consultants. The inspector actively monitors the buses as they pass through each stage of production and reviews the final fit and finish to ensure all aspects of assembly were performed in a workmanlike manner. In addition, MTD's Fleet and Facilities Manager, Nolan Robertson, is scheduled to go to the Gillig factory on March 20 to meet with MTD's inspector and review MTD's buses on the production line.

### *Finance & Administration*

Procurement is preparing the solicitation for Financial and Single Government Audit Services, as the current contract options have expired. A small office maintenance project has been awarded to Pueblo Construction.

Staff met with State Department of Transportation (DOT) and California State Transportation Agency for a Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Cycle 8 grant application consultation. The quarterly meeting was also held between MTD and Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) representatives.

Staff attended a workshop on the upcoming Low Carbon Transportation Operations Program (LCTOP) grant cycle. The Board will receive a report at its next meeting, along with a recommendation to approve a resolution acknowledging certifications and assurances and authorizing designated agents, on behalf of the named Regional Entity/Transit Operator, to take any actions necessary for the purpose of obtaining Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) funds provided by the California Department of Transportation, Division of Local Assistance.

MTD Information Technologies (IT) completed a successful upgrade of Microsoft Outlook 365 for all staff.

### *Planning & Marketing*

MTD staff attended a meeting of the SBCAG Technical Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC) and Joint Technical Advisory Committee (JTAC) on March 5, 2026. TTAC members received a presentation on the Active Transportation Program Cycle 8 process and the Measure A 2025 Annual Report.

The Committee also approved the Project Study Report Work Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 to 2027-2028 and recommended the Local Transportation Fund apportionments, as well as preparing the claim forms for FY 2026-2027.

JTAC received a presentation on the planning process for the Sustainable Communities Strategy and the current efforts to reform the associated legislation.

### *Human Resources & Risk*

Transit Employee Appreciation Day – on March 18, the District will celebrate National Transit Employee Appreciation Day, recognizing all of our employees who help transport our passengers safely, maintain and prepare our fleet for passengers on a daily basis, and our administration team who helps keep records and reports on our transit system. It is truly a team effort, and it shows in the pride we have for our Transit District.

Property, Earthquake, and Equipment Breakdown coverages are renewed in May 2026, Staff will be presenting the costs for FY 26/27 premiums for inclusion in the FY 26/27 budget.

Auto Liability and General Liability Renewal – Following Board meeting of March 3, 2025, and Board approval of the renewal, staff has requested Brown & Brown to bind the coverages for renewal, and staff is working through the final signature documents for full renewal and implementation of renewal policies.