



Metro

February 15, 2006

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ROGER SNOBLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: JOHN B. CATOE, JR.
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SUBJECT: PASSENGER LOADING ON MAJOR BUS SYSTEMS

ISSUE

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa recently requested information on how passenger loading on the Metro Bus system compared to other large transit operations in the United States. The following information is in response to his inquiry.

DISCUSSION

Passenger loading is the ratio of passengers to seats on a bus. This measure is generally applied to a time period of service, such as morning rush hour, and is used to measure capacity utilization at the route or system level. The standard used by individual properties varies, as does the manner in which it is applied and the regularity of reporting. However, all major properties uniformly and regularly report boardings per revenue service hour, which is another indicator of capacity utilization.

Presented below are productivity statistics for the 2003 reporting period, for the eight transit properties in the United States that operate bus fleets over 1,000. Based on this data, only New York operates a bus system that is more heavily utilized than the Los Angeles system.

Property	City	Max. Buses Operated	Boardings/Revenue Service Hour
MTA New York City Transit	New York City	3,893	69.2
LACMTA	Los Angeles	2,146	53.3
New Jersey Transit Corp.	New Jersey - statewide	1,879	29.7
Chicago Transit Authority	Chicago	1,719	44.1
King County DOT	Seattle	1,350	30.5
WMATA	Washington, DC	1,262	43.1
SEPTA	Philadelphia	1,159	45.3
MTA of Harris County	Houston	1,017	29.2

Source: National Transit Database FY2003