

For Immediate Release
Press Release

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**TRANSIT LEADER BEVERLY A. SCOTT RECEIVES
2014 SHARON D. BANKS AWARD**

Beverly A. Scott, General Manager, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority; and Administrator, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Rail and Transit Division, is the 2014 recipient of the Sharon D. Banks Award for Humanitarian Leadership in Transportation. This Transportation Research Board (TRB) award, which may be conferred biennially, was established in memory of Sharon Banks, who was the General Manager of AC Transit, Oakland, California, from 1991 until her death in 1999. She chaired the TRB Executive Committee in 1998. Scott will receive the award on January 15, 2014, during the Chairman's Luncheon at the TRB 93rd Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Sharon D. Banks Award recognizes innovative and successful leadership in people-oriented initiatives in transportation, sustained over an extended period of time, that exemplify Banks' ideals of humanity and service. The award goes beyond general managerial excellence, focusing on accomplishments in areas such as the education, training, and mentoring of transportation professionals; community-sensitive facilities and services; or comparable people-oriented initiatives. This award was established by TRB with the encouragement and support of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). Other contributors to the award, in addition to TRB and USDOT, include the American Public Transportation Association, AC Transit, the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials, and the California Transit Association. Recipients are chosen by a selection committee appointed by the Chairman of the TRB Executive Committee.

Scott's attention to the "personal aspects of the decisions she makes and the impact of those decisions on the lives of those who depend on public transit for their livelihood" is core to her recognition as a people-oriented transit manager. She is honored for her long attention to "diversity, fairness, and equity" and for her tireless "efforts to improve the lives of others." With a "passion for professional development," Scott is a long time mentor of staff and students, many of which are now in public transportation leadership and management positions. Scott's ideals of humanity and service will have "a lasting impact on the lives of many."

Scott is known throughout the North American transit industry for her visionary leadership, results driven management style, and progressive approach to labor management relations. Scott was recently named a "Transportation Innovator of Change" by President Barack Obama and appointed to the National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC) for her long record of exemplary leadership and service in the transportation industry. She currently serves as the NIAC Vice Chair.

Scott's career in the public transportation industry spans more than three decades and includes executive or senior leadership positions with some of the nation's largest public transit systems. In addition, Scott has served as executive director of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators and as Assistant Professor of Government and Public Affairs at Tennessee State University. Scott has a Ph.D. in political science, with a specialization in public administration, from Howard University; and a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Fisk University.

Active in TRB for more than 18 years, Scott is a former member of the TRB Executive Committee and has served as chair or member of other TRB committees and Transit Cooperative Research Program panels. She currently serves as Chair of Rail~Volution, and on the board of directors for Reconnecting America, the Transportation Learning Center, and Americans for Transit.

Nearly 12,000 policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 93rd Annual Meeting, in Washington, D.C., January 12-16, 2014. The meeting, held at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington hotels, includes more than 4,500 presentations in 800 sessions and workshops covering all aspects of transportation.

The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. TRB facilitates the sharing of information on transportation practice and policy by researchers and practitioners; stimulates research and offers research management services that promote technical excellence; provides expert advice on transportation policy and programs; and disseminates research results broadly and encourages their implementation. A major focal point of TRB's activities, the Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest.

Organized in 1920, TRB is a division of the National Academies, which include the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council. The nation turns to the National Academies for independent, objective advice on issues that affect people's lives worldwide.

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