



## STAFF REPORT

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**DATE:** December 9, 2019  
**TO:** Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Shelly Valenton, VP, Integrated Services and Strategic Initiatives  
**SUBJ:** SPECIAL RECOGNITION - AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION (APTA) MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

### RECOMMENDATION

No Recommendation — For Information Only.

### FISCAL IMPACT

None.

### DISCUSSION

Henry Li, Sacramento Regional Transit District's (SacRT) General Manager/CEO, received the 2019 Outstanding Public Transportation Manager Award from the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). This prestigious and highly competitive award, described by APTA as the equivalent of an Oscar award to the industry, is presented to a manager who has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of public transportation in North America.

APTA is the leading force in advancing public transportation entities providing bus, rail, subway, ferry and paratransit services throughout North America, representing 1,500 member organizations.

"Li is a visionary and transformational leader who is well deserving of this award, which is given to the best public transit CEO in North America. His leadership at SacRT has created phenomenal results not only in the quality of service, but also in the restoration of positive financial ratings, increase in ridership, implementation of innovations, and the rebuilding of public trust. It takes a true leader with a focused vision to achieve the impressive results seen in his three year term at SacRT," said APTA President and CEO Paul P. Skoutelas.

Li's selection is a testament to his vision, dedication and leadership to take SacRT to the next level as a world-class transit agency. He implemented historic improvements over the last three years as GM/CEO, including ridership growth for SacRT, as our industry is still struggling with downward trends. He is highly praised by the Sacramento community and the industry for implementing a solid and comprehensive transformation of SacRT in record speed. Li has proved to be a powerful change agent, overseeing a massive transformation to a solid culture of "Customers First and Business Optimization," and dramatically improving key aspects of organizational performance,

including safety, security, cleanliness, fiscal health, rail system modernization, service reliability, customer satisfaction and ridership improvements.

Li received the award at APTA's national conference in October in New York City, attended by over 2,000 transit industry leaders. At the same conference, he was also elected to serve on APTA's Executive Committee, APTA's highest governing body.