

special employee advisory

December 18, 2008 • Page 1 of 1

A Message from President and CEO Joe Boardman

Dear Co-workers,

I want to share with you some of the discussions that took place during the board of directors meeting this week.

First, I want you to know that, I — with unanimous support from the board of directors — will make it my highest priority to seek the funds for the remainder of the retroactive pay in 2009.

At a meeting with labor leaders last month, I said that it was my intent to deliver the retroactive pay in 2009. After the holidays, we plan to seek the necessary funds from Congress and will appeal to our key appropriators on the Hill to make the funds available for this purpose. I will join with labor leaders in taking this message to Capitol Hill.

We have an incredibly dedicated workforce. It's important to me that you know that I value the work you do, and that I will go to Congress for you.

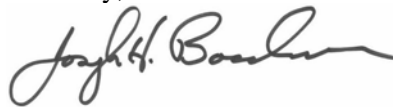
At Congress' request, we have submitted a robust list of projects for consideration for the economic stimulus bill that President-elect Obama has said will be his first legislative priority in 2009. That list includes putting more people to work on our fleet and infrastructure so that we can expand capacity to meet demand. Stored equipment needs to be refurbished and put into service, and more work done on our current fleet so that we run the caliber of service we can all be proud of.

I'm sure you've heard me talk about my goal of a greener, safer, healthier and more connected Amtrak. Everything we do feeds into that goal. From putting additional equipment into service with the help of the stimulus bill (we hope), to fighting for the retroactive pay, to serving as a critical player in the nation's transportation network — it all means a better and stronger Amtrak.

With these goals in sight, we will position ourselves as a transportation leader and the most viable mode in the next energy crisis. Just consider the role Amtrak is playing in the presidential inaugural events. We're transporting the President- and Vice President-elect to Washington, as well as bringing hundreds of thousands of people to the nation's capital. We'll be working hard to accommodate the demand, and I thank all of the employees who will be working that day — including those who sign up to volunteer — to make those trips extremely successful.

I wish you all very happy holidays and please work safely.

Sincerely,



Joe Boardman
President and Chief Executive Officer

P.S. I will be on C-Span's Washington Journal on Tuesday morning, if you have the opportunity to tune in.

Please distribute at all safety meetings and post on all employee bulletin boards.



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Employee Communications

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