



Regional Transportation Authority

For immediate release

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BISHOP HORACE E. SMITH APPOINTED TO RTA BOARD *Lifelong Chicagoan appointed to final member slot*

CHICAGO – Dr. Horace E Smith has been appointed to the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Board of Directors as one of five City of Chicago members. Mayor Richard M. Daley nominated Dr. Smith as a City of Chicago Representative to the 16-member RTA Board and the Chicago City Council voted to approve the nomination on February 11. With new transit reform legislation that became effective in January 2008, the number of RTA board members increased from 13 to 16.

Dr. Smith has served more than 15 years as director of the Comprehensive Sickle Cell/Thalassemia Program at Children’s Memorial Hospital, serves as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Northwestern Medical School, and is recognized world-wide as an outstanding pediatrician in his field. Dr. Smith is also ordained as a Bishop and currently resides at Apostolic Faith Church on the City’s Southside.

“Dr. Smith’s distinguished leadership as a highly respected medical professional and his distinction as a spiritual leader in the Chicago area makes him a welcome addition to the RTA’s Board of Directors,” said Jim Reilly, the RTA’s Board Chairman. “His involvement in the community will no doubt prove beneficial to the RTA as we work to maintain and enhance the transit system and improve the quality of people’s lives throughout the region.”

Dr. Smith has been honored by numerous organizations including the Children’s Miracle Network. His humanitarian endeavors cover over 90 different countries including Africa, where he travels extensively by providing education and training to help alleviate the devastation caused by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

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About the RTA: The RTA provides financial oversight, funding and regional planning for the three public transit operators in northeastern Illinois: The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) bus and train, Metra commuter rail and Pace suburban bus and paratransit. For more information, visit www.rtachicago.com and www.MovingBeyondCongestion.org.