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# M-Line News

McKinney Avenue Transit Authority

Fall 2017

## FEATURE | IN THE BARN

# A New Chapter for a Northern Girl

Yet another new trolley car on the streets of Uptown has a rich and storied past.

Car 4614 is a replacement of sorts for 612 – the PCC-style trolley with a Yankee pedigree that MATA was evaluating for restoration. The car's original service life was in Boston. After extensive inspection by the Brookville Trolley Corp., it was determined that the 612 had too much structural deterioration to be a good candidate for restoration.

Enter Car 4614, originally of Toronto, has been in DART's railyard. MATA crews found the car to be in amazingly good condition, and immediately began to rebuild it.

The car has a unique and interesting service history north of the border. It's one of only 50 of its kind built by St.



MATA begins rebuilding Car 4616.

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Louis Car Company. That was the last North American order of PCC type streetcars the company built, and it brought Toronto's fleet up to 539 PCC cars. These cars were to serve Toronto's population well into the 1970s, before their first major rebuild; a second, more extensive rebuild happened between 1986 and 1992 (when 4614 was rebuilt), although the cars were put up for auction only four years later. MATA became involved in finding new homes for them with various museums and electric railways. At that time, the agency acquired 4614.

The car is currently undergoing major renovations. Look for it on McKinney Avenue sometime in early 2018!

## MATA | BUILDING NEWS

# M-Line Tower Is Complete



Trammell Crow's new 20-story apartment tower – named the M-Line Tower – is open for business and filling up fast. This also means new digs for MATA. The 20-story tower has 261 residential units and 13,000 square feet of ground-floor retail. Café Express, which originally occupied the site, will take up part of the ground floor.

The M-Line Tower sits right across Bowen Street from MATA's existing car barn – and a cool name-check isn't all that the M-Line is getting. As part of the project, developer Trammell Crow donated a new 60-foot streetcar bay that can house up to two cars, as well as more than 600 square feet of office space. This fall, MATA will begin moving into the new spaces, which will augment – not replace – MATA's current facilities.



Pictured above is Kent Reneau of our Shops Dept. poses between our Green Dragon, car 186 and beside his recreation of the front end of car 189. This is the first time the two cars have been together since the end of the original era of Dallas streetcar service in 1956. 189 is one of the original Dallas cars we have in storage awaiting future restoration. Since her front end was to be replaced anyway we were able to salvage it and recreate the rest for use in the new Canopy Hotel along our line at City Place Blvd. She was christened, "Green Goddess" by the Shops Dept.

## COMMUNITY | GIVING BACK

# Become a MATA VOLUNTEER

Do you like woodworking? Tinkering with antique machinery? How would you like to operate a 100-year-old trolley? Whatever your skills and talents, they would likely prove valuable to MATA.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our vintage trolley service, and there are opportunities throughout the organization: You can restore the trolley cars, serve as a Motorman (or woman) or conductor, or maintain and repair the overhead lines. You also could conduct historical research, serve on a planning committee or help out with administrative matters. Plus, we can always use help with special events such as anniversary celebrations.

To find out more about becoming a MATA volunteer, call 214-885-0006. Aside from doing your part to preserve history, you'll have a lot of fun!

