



Metro

Daily Brief

Friday, August 12, 2005
20050812-0

CEO Roger Snoble

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Metro Briefs Members of Congress on Transit and Highway Issues

Congressmen James Oberstar (D-MN) and Tom Petri (R-WI) were provided technical briefings on Metro's short range transportation plan and the many projects currently under construction. Congressman Petri had an opportunity to visit Midway Yard yesterday to view our new 2550 light rail car.

Both Congressmen serve as senior members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and had appeared with President Bush in Illinois earlier this week for the signing of legislation reauthorizing America's surface transportation programs.

Threat Level for Mass Transit Sector Lowered

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff announced the national threat level for the mass transit sector will be lowered from Code Orange to Code Yellow at 8:00 p.m. today, Friday, August 12, at the discretion of state and local authorities. Since raising the threat level for mass transit systems on July 7, the Department of Homeland Security has been working closely with federal, state and local partners to develop and implement sustainable mass transit security measures tailored to the unique design of each region's transit system.

CNN and KABC-TV called for reaction after U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced it would lower its terrorism alert level for buses, subways and trains. Captain Dan Finkelstein told reporters that Metro is still maintaining

high readiness and urged the public to remain vigilant, as well.

For more information, see DHS Press Release:

http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/press_release/press_release_0718.xml

Los Angeles City Council Committee Meetings

The Public Works and Transportation Committees of the Los Angeles City Council today approved the Councilmember Grueuel-Smith-Villaraigosa motion and the staff report from three LA City departments (Chief Legislative Analyst, Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of Contract Services) proposing measures to address road construction work on major City thoroughfares during weekday peak hours. The committee actions will be on the full City Council agenda for next Wednesday August 17.

As I stated in yesterday's brief, City staff has informed us that the motion would have minimal impact on Metro's major construction projects. Implementation of these new measures is expected sometime in the fall. At the Transportation Committee meeting, Councilmember Greuel also referred to Mayor Villaraigosa's executive directive that bans road construction by LA City departments during rush hour.

Online pass sales grow 300%

Metro introduced online regional and metro monthly pass sales in January of this year. Since then, sales have been growing at a steady pace from 196 initial orders and revenue of \$15,494 to 746 orders in July with revenue of \$47,108.

Our Spring 2005 customer survey showed that over half our customers now have access to the Internet – and two-thirds of them have visited Metro.net.

Higher Gas Prices Boosts Metro Ridership

The Los Angeles Times will publish an article Saturday about rising gas prices and will note that they seem to be spurring higher ridership on the Metro Rail and Bus system. Average weekday boardings for Metro Rail in July 2005 are up approximately 12% compared to July 2004. Systemwide Metro Bus boardings in June 2005 (July bus figures not yet available) were up about 8% over a year earlier. However, there's a 5% variance plus or minus.

Metro Green Line Marks 10th Anniversary

The Daily Breeze will publish a short article Saturday noting that the Metro Green Line's 10th anniversary was Aug. 12, 2005. Public Relations staff noted that July 2005 ridership was 32,911, more than double what the ridership was 10

years ago (15,800 in August 1995). The reporter may note there is no rail connection to LAX. Staff mentioned, however, original plans for the Metro Green Line called for such a LAX connection but the alignment was changed after airport authorities and others raised safety concerns about airport operations.

Second Metro Gateway Cities Hearing

Public Relations issued a press release about a second public hearing scheduled Aug. 18 for proposed bus service changes in the Metro Gateway Cities service sector. It was posted on the web, as well. The hearing will allow for additional public comment. Press Release available on http://www.metro.net/news_info/default.htm

Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 12

Transportation Concepts, Inc. made full rollout this morning. There were eight drivers and six teamsters representatives walking the picket lines. The support from the Sheriffs' has continued and there have been no incidents.

CEO Upcoming Meetings and Events

Next week I will be meeting with:

Supervisor Molina, Supervisor Burke, Director Fleming, Director Roberts, Supervisor Knabe, and Director Katz; Congressmember Jane Harmon for a Homeland Security Briefing; KCBS -2 Traffic Interview; Regionwide CEOs; Conference call with Congressmember Howard Berman and CTC member Allan Lawrence to discuss I-405 project; Habib Balian, Gold Line Authority; Nick Patsouras; and Interviews with prospective candidates for the Economic and Joint Development position

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