



Metro

Daily Brief

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Department of Homeland Security Risk Based Vulnerability Assessment

Metro has engaged the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) and their Technical Assistance Division to perform a risk-based, vulnerability assessment. This assessment is expected to last approximately six months. A meeting has been scheduled on Friday August 19.

FTA to Visit Metro on Exposition Light Rail Project EIR

On Thursday August 18, representatives of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will be touring the Exposition right-of-way as a part of their review of the Final EIS/EIR. The FTA is responsible for assuring that the document has been prepared in conformity with all applicable federal guidelines and regulations. Metro staff is currently making final edits to the document based on FTA comments. The project team is hopeful that the FTA will allow release of the document for a 45-day public comment period by the end of the month.

City of Los Angeles Contribution to Exposition Light Rail Project

The Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee will meet this Wednesday afternoon, August 17 to consider a Department of Transportation (DOT) staff report on the City's ability to contribute to the Exposition Light Rail Transit Project. The staff report recommends that the City Council provide guidance to staff on options to fund the City's contribution. DOT believes that

the City's contribution "...can best be accommodated through the use of its Proposition C funds."

A link to the agenda is below. You may click on the number 05-1107, located next to Item # 1, to access the file documents.

http://lacity.org/clk/committeeagend/clkcommitteeagend3031671_08172005.pdf

Metro Orange Line Testing of Metro Liners Begins

A press release was issued today announcing that testing of the Metro Liners on the eastern portion of the Metro Orange Line begins Sunday, Aug. 21.

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Update

Over the weekend, Eastside LRT Constructors completed the second weekend of continuous decking at 1st/Soto without any community complaints. The decking operation is being carried out over three weekends at 1st/Soto, each through a 55-hour continuous operation from Friday evening through Monday morning.

Rising Gas Prices Boosts Metro Ridership

Reporters for CNN, USA Today, Burbank Leader/Glendale News Press, and KCET inquired if Metro ridership has gone up in wake of rising gas prices. Staff noted that looking at average weekday boardings, Metro Rail is up about 12% in July 2005 compared to a year earlier and the bus side was up about 8% in June 2005 (latest statistics available) compared to a year earlier. There's a 5% variance, plus or minus, but Metro believes high gas prices have driven more commuters and others to public transit. Staff also promoted carpools and other ridesharing. CNN and KCET are working on stories to air later this week. The Burbank Leader/Glendale News Press article should be published Tuesday.

No Green Light For Hackers

KFWB interviewed Metro Public Relations staff regarding a national news report that the federal officials are making it a misdemeanor to build homemade devices to pre-empt traffic signals and turn lights green. Staff noted that there are 14 Metro Rapid bus lines that utilize special transponders interacting with data loops in the street to extend green lights by 10 seconds, and turn red lights green 10 seconds faster, but there is special software and equipment that make it difficult to hack.

Metro Participation in Nisei Week

Over the weekend, Community Relations, Capital Projects and Planning staff participated in the Little Tokyo Tofu Festival as part of the Nisei Week activities.

Staff promoted the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension and provided Metro bus/rail information to over 25,000 event participants.

Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 15

Transportation Concepts, Inc. continued service with 100% on-time rollout for Saturday, Sunday and Monday. There were two drivers picketing during the weekend pullouts, and four drivers and four Teamsters representatives on the picket lines this morning. There were no incidents reported and the Sheriffs continued to provide support.

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