



Metro

Daily Brief

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CEO Roger Snoble

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FTA Visits Metro on Mid-City/Exposition Light Rail Transit Project FEIS/EIR

On Thursday August 18, representatives of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) completed a tour of the Mid-City/Exposition LRT Project's alignment, 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. FTA expressed to Metro staff that the tour was excellent and was pleased with the progress of the proposed Project.

City of Los Angeles Contribution to Exposition Light Rail Project

The Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee met late Wednesday afternoon and discussed options for the City's funding contribution to the Exposition Light Rail Transit Project. Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) staff mentioned two options for funding, either through bonding or a "spend ahead" option utilizing Surface Transportation Program Local funds.

The LADOT report proposed a \$31.8 Million net cash contribution after adjustments and credits. Metro, however, has allocated \$50 Million in the Exposition budget as a local contribution from the City of Los Angeles. The Transportation Committee directed Chief Legislative Analyst and City Administrative Officer staff to report back in 30 days on funding options.

Press Reviews Federal Appropriations

Both the Times and Daily News are expected to run stories in the next several days about federal transportation funding. The Times is looking at what Metro sought and what LA County received in the latest omnibus funding bill, including various projects that local Congressional members sought for their constituents that were not on Metro's priority list. The Daily News is looking at how much money was authorized in TEA-21, the previous federal transportation funding measure, and how much has been obligated so far and balances that remain.

Rising Gas Prices Coverage Continues

Media Relations helped a KABC Channel 7 reporter with two stories about how Angelenos can beat the high price of gasoline by exploring commute options such as Metro's School Pool Program and Flexcar ridesharing program. The story is expected on the station's 4 p.m. broadcast today and later this week.

KCBS-TV and KTLA-TV today interviewed Metro riders about their decision to use public transit as a way to beat the high price of gas.

USA Today ran a story today on how workers are beating the high price of gas and noted that ridership on Metro in Los Angeles is way up in the wake of higher gas prices.

NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams will feature an interview with me tonight or tomorrow regarding alternatives to driving in an era of high gas prices.

Tiger Team for Universal Fare/TAP Project

I have formed an executive tiger team that will oversee the remainder of the UFS/TAP project through full implementation. The executive team includes Alex Clifford, Terry Matsumoto, Carolyn Flowers and Matt Raymond. UFS/TAP Project Manager Jane Matsumoto and a cross-functional focused support group of eleven dedicated Metro employees will support this team. On September 6, I will be hosting a kick-off meeting with the team to discuss their charge and the importance of this project to the agency and the region, which includes integrating all facets of regional fare issues.

Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 18

Transportation Concepts Inc. made 100% on time roll out again this morning. There were seven drivers and eight Teamsters representatives walking the picket lines. There were no incidents with the picketers or TCI operators this morning. We have decided that the 24-hour Sheriffs presence could be scaled back. The Sheriffs will continue to provide coverage during pullout and will be on call if they are needed for any off hour's incidents.

Reserve the Date – Annual Night of Stars Banquet

You are cordially invited to attend Metro's annual Night of Stars banquet where we honor our top outstanding Operators and Mechanics. The event is scheduled for Friday, September 16, 2005 and will be held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 404 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles. Reception begins at 6:00 p.m., dinner and awards presentation from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

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