



Metro

Daily Brief

Tuesday, August 23, 2005

20050823-0

CEO Roger Snoble

In this issue:

- [Metro Orange Line Minor Construction Incidents](#)
- [Metro Orange Line Graffiti Abatement](#)
- [Tutor-Saliba Suit](#)
- [Metro Bus Line 333 Investigation](#)
- [Transit Security Board Actions](#)
- [Senate Committee Approves SB 66](#)
- [Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 23](#)

Metro Orange Line Minor Construction Incidents

The Daily News may or may not do an article soon about incidents on the Metro Orange Line where construction crews working on the Rapidway, or for DWP, have struck power lines and fiber optic cable. A reporter spoke with Construction and Media Relations staff today. Recently a DWP crew hit a fiber optic cable. On another occasion, a crew working for the Metro Orange Line contractor nicked an underground power line but did not cut it. No major delays or damage ensued, and Metro is not responsible for any damage during the construction phase.

Metro Orange Line Graffiti Abatement

The Daily News inquired about Metro's graffiti abatement efforts on the Metro Orange Line now under construction. Staff reported that current graffiti abatement is the responsibility of the contractor until the line is turned over to Metro in the late September time-frame, and that both the contractor and Metro have a 24-hour turn-around to remove graffiti from all Metro-owned transit properties. Staff indicated that there are sections of adjacent properties on the line containing graffiti that are on private property, which the agency cannot clean up. Metro is asking the public to report graffiti in the short-term via the agency's construction hotline. A story is expected to run tomorrow.

Tutor-Saliba Suit

The Los Angeles Times inquired today regarding the status of the lawsuit involving Metro and Tutor-Saliba over Metro Red Line construction costs. Staff

reported that the case has been on appeal since 2001, and that it scheduled for a retrial at the end of September. A story is expected to run tomorrow.

Metro Bus Line 333 Investigation

Channels 22/52, 34, 54, 62 and La Opinion covered today's media briefing on the result of an investigation of an incident on board Metro Bus Line 333 that happened July 14, 2005. Deputy CEO John Catoe and Westside/Central Service Sector General Manager David Armijo explained that there wasn't enough evidence to reach a conclusive decision on what really happened aboard the mentioned bus. Both executives, however, underscore the importance of training bus operators on how to do a better job with the large diversity of our customers. The incident involved a Metro Bus Operator who allegedly asked Hispanic passengers on board the bus to leave because they were speaking Spanish. Stories may appear later today on TV and tomorrow in La Opinion.

Transit Security Board Actions

The Daily News interviewed staff today regarding two upcoming Board actions to enhance transit security on Metro Rail. One item was for the procurement of CCTV and Digital Video Recorders on board light rail vehicles. The second item is action to realign the budget to move funds for the purchase of additional television cameras at stations. A story may appear later this week pending Board action on the items.

Senate Committee Approves SB 66

The Senate Transportation and Housing Committee today approved SB 66 on an 8-2 vote. SB 66 is the cleanup bill for the Bay Bridge funding plan, which was approved under separate legislation. SB 66 includes additional protections for state funds and includes language regarding Metro's advances of local funds on state projects. This language will facilitate expedited repayment for those advances and, in the future, create flexibility for Metro in future funding decisions.

Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 23

TCI had one cancellation this morning, a one way tripper on Line 167, due to lack of vehicles. The rest of the rollout this morning was on-time. There were seven drivers and three teamster representatives on the picket lines. There were no incidents.

Phone: 213-922-6888
Fax: 213-922-7447
