



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

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**CEO Roger Snoble**

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## **Congressman Edward Ross Roybal Passes Away Last Night**

It is with great sadness that I share with you that former Congressman Ed Roybal passed away late last night at his home. He served in Congress for thirty years (1963-1993) as well as the Los Angeles City Council for fourteen years (1949-1962). Mr. Roybal was a true pioneer who played a major leadership role in the development of our Metro Rail system. Details concerning his funeral service will be forwarded to Board members as soon as we receive this information.

## **Rosa Parks Passes Away Last Night**

It is with great sadness and respect in which we mourn the passing of Rosa Parks, one of the most influential figures in the modern civil rights movement. Rosa Parks' action helped change the nations transportation industry. Her act of courage and defiance were the catalyst that sparked the modern civil rights movement. We will continue to honor her and celebrate her contribution to the transportation industry.

## **Route 710 Tunnel Feasibility Technical Assessment**

At the request of State Senator Gilbert Cedillo, Metro participated in a community meeting last Saturday on the Route 710 Freeway Preliminary Tunneling Assessment. Dr. Dan Eisenstein gave a technical presentation on the

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latest tunneling technology, and Planning staff provided an overview of the scope of the study and its current status. Senator Cedillo convened the meeting to give his constituents an opportunity to learn more about the benefits of state-of-the-art tunneling techniques as they relate to the possible future extension of the 710 freeway. While some in the audience voiced skepticism over the need to close the freeway gap, others expressed appreciation for having the chance to provide input and obtain more detailed information on the feasibility study.

Metro Networks (KABC radio) inquired today about this meeting. Media Relations staff told the reporter that Metro is taking the lead in working with SCAG and Caltrans on a study to see if it is feasible to tunnel, looking at the cost involved and environmental issues such as air quality, noise issues and traffic impacts. The study began in April and will be completed in February of next year at which point it will be brought back to the community for their review.

### **Los Angeles City Council in Recess This Friday for Metro Orange Line Grand Opening**

The Los Angeles City Council will be in recess this Friday, October 28, 2005 so that Councilmembers can attend the Metro Orange Line grand opening. I look forward to the Councilmembers' attendance this Friday morning at 10 a. m. as we celebrate the start of the Metro Orange Line.

### **Metro Orange Line Landscaping**

The Daily News is preparing a feature story on the landscaping that has been incorporated into the construction of the new Metro Orange Line. The reporter interviewed representatives of Valley Crest Company, a sub-contractor responsible for planting the landscaping along the alignment. The reporter was told that the type of landscaping along the Metro Orange Line was a joint effort between Metro and the community. More than 800,000 shrubs and over 5,000 trees were planted as well as a recycle water line and other irrigation at a cost of \$20 million. Staff stressed that the community spent a considerable amount of time reviewing and reaching a landscaping consensus.

### **Metro Orange Line Soundwalls, Bus Service**

The Los Angeles Times interviewed staff today on bus operator visibility at Metro Orange Line intersections containing soundwalls. Staff reported Metro is using training, guidance and enforcement to ensure safety near intersections with soundwalls. Operators do not pass through intersections at full speeds, but slow down at intersections and prepare to brake. When asked whether the agency had made cuts to bus service in the San Fernando Valley, staff reported that cuts were made countywide, and that the agency has increased service levels for peak service on North/South bus lines intersecting the Metro Orange Line. The story is expected to run tomorrow.

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## **Claim Filed Against Metro And The Metro Gold Line**

The Pasadena Star News inquired today regarding a recent claim that has been filed against Metro by the ex-wife of South Pasadena City Councilman Margrave alleging for a second time inverse condemnation arising from the design and construction of the Metro Gold Line. County Counsel told the reporter that we are in the process of reviewing the claim and could not comment on it at this time.

## **Metro Blue Line Train Accident**

A Metro Blue Line train was involved in an accident this afternoon shortly after 1 p.m. when a car apparently turned in front of the train on Washington Boulevard at Hill Street in downtown Los Angeles. Four individuals on board the train claimed injuries and were transported to a nearby hospital. One person in the car was injured and transported. Media Relations received media inquiries regarding the accident and stories may air this afternoon. The incident was cleared shortly after 2 p.m. and normal train service resumed.

## **Of Note**

On this day in 2001, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to rename the Transportation Library as the Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library to recognize the distinguished thirteen-year career of Dorothy Gray. She is credited with building the library into the forth-largest transportation library collection in the U.S., after U.C. Berkeley, Northwestern and the DOT's Volpe Center, bringing it national and international respect as an important transportation research repository. Originally started by the Los Angeles Railway in 1920, the Library has served employees, students and the general public continuously since 1971.

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