



Metro

Daily Brief

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Arthur Winston Retires

Today, Arthur Winston signed the papers for his retirement, which is effective Wednesday, March 22 the day the South Bay utility leadman turns 100 years old. After working on the job for more than seven decades, Arthur is leaving behind a legacy and career that have made him a true Los Angeles and Metro icon. He has worked a total of 76 years for Los Angeles public transit agencies and was honored for his longevity. The Board named the South Los Angeles bus division after him in 1997. Since January 24, 1934 Arthur has missed only one day of work; that was in 1988 when his wife died. In 1996 Arthur received a Congressional Citation from then President Clinton as "Employee of the Century." Various programs and meetings honoring Arthur are being scheduled and will be announced later.

Infrastructure Bond Proposal Update

Yesterday, the Assembly Transportation Committee began its process of conducting informational hearings on the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan. The Committee received presentations by Administration representatives similar to presentations made at last week's Senate Transportation and Housing Committee meeting. Some members of the committee expressed concern with the Administration's proposal to expand the use of design-build contracting.

Additionally, the lack of funding for public transit continues to be a topic raised by members. The Administration maintains that the protection of Proposition 42 funds constitutes a significant investment in public transit. While this element does provide funds for transit through projects in the Traffic Congestion Relief Program and through the Public Transportation Account, these are not new revenues. The actual new revenues in the Strategic Growth Plan fund projects other than transit.

The Assembly Transportation Committee will continue its hearings tomorrow by

discussing design-build proposals, public private partnerships, goods movement and air quality issues. Metro's advocates in Sacramento will provide general comments to the Committee.

On a separate note, the State Senate passed Senator Perata's infrastructure bond proposal (SB 1024), yesterday.

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