



Metro

Daily Brief

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CEO Roger Snoble



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Free Fares Media Event

I joined Mayor Villaraigosa, L.A. City Councilmember Wendy Greuel, Director David Fleming, representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Drivers and Los Angeles Police Department today at Hollywood/Highland to promote free fares on board Metro for the upcoming Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve holidays. Free fares are a public service intended to help reduce the incidence of unsafe driving caused by intoxicated drivers in Los Angeles County. Following the event, the Mayor joined numerous media on a ride on the Metro Red Line. Stories are expected to run today and tomorrow.

Congressional Earmarks

Reporter inquiries were made by the San Gabriel Valley Tribune and the Daily News-Washington Bureau about how the elimination of earmarks by congress would affect Metro projects. Staff reported that until the congressional language is available (January at the earliest), and until federal agencies determine how a ban on earmarks will impact their discretionary programs, the precise impact on Metro cannot be determined.

Tagger Arrest

Last October 27th, Transit Services Bureau Officers arrested in individual for fare evasion and possession of vandalism tools at the Metro Red Line Universal Station. The juvenile was in possession of over 200 pre-printed slap tags

bearing the tag name "DINO" (with a backwards "N"). After his arrest, the Juvenile admitted his tagging name was in fact "DINO" and he was a "Oner." (a person who is not a member of a tagging crew). At the time of arrest he stated that he had a previous arrest for vandalism (over \$50,000) and is currently on summary probation for an LAPD arrest concerning vandalism.

On November 2nd and 14th, the Transit Services Bureau SPU Team discovered more rail cars vandalized with the tag moniker "DINO". The damage amounted to approximately \$10,000.

Today a search & arrest warrant was served at 1835 N. Wilcox in Hollywood. During the search detectives discovered signage belonging to the MTA along with several tagging implements and other assorted tools. The suspect was booked at West Hollywood Station and released to his mother. During the post booking interview, the Suspect admitted to possessing the MTA signs and to causing the damages on the trains.

Based on information obtained during the interview, Detective Frank Richter will be conducting another search warrant for additional suspects relating to the above damages.

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