



Metro

Daily Brief

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CEO Roger Snoble

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Metro Security Team to Brief Congresswoman Harman on Transit Security

Congresswoman Jane Harman (D-El Segundo), who serves on the House Homeland Security Committee, is scheduled to visit Metro headquarters on the afternoon of Tuesday, August 16. She has specifically requested a briefing on transit security issues and an overview of security measures Metro has taken and intends to take in the future. Metro's security team will provide a technical presentation similar in scope to the briefing given to Board members in July. The briefing will also include a tour of the bus operations control center.

All Board members are invited to attend the briefing. If you are interested in participating, please RSVP my office by Monday, August 15 so we can avoid any Brown Act violations.

State Legislative Update

The State Legislature will return from its summer recess on Monday, August 15, 2005 and begin its final weeks of session. Metro Government Relations has prepared the attached, which is a review of the major issues still pending in Sacramento in advance of these final weeks.

Interview with Director Bernard Parks

Channel 9 was at the South Bay Governance Council meeting last night at the

Arthur Winston Division. The media was interested in getting a reaction to the Mayor's press conference last week regarding the passage of SAFETEA-LU funding, which the President signed last night. Director Parks was interviewed for the 10 p.m. Channel 9 newscast. He stated that Los Angeles has more traffic jams than any other city and we spend about an hour a day sitting in traffic. He continued to add that the funds will help in buying buses, cover rail improvements and freeway expansions, and Los Angeles residents' transit dreams can become a reality now that the money is there. The newscast indicated that the funding will cover several projects including the Alameda Corridor East, the Metro Gold Line Extension, the Exposition project to Santa Monica, the carpool lane along the 405/101, and the Crenshaw Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Los Angeles City Council Committee Meetings

Two Los Angeles City Council committees will meet Friday, August 12, to consider a motion by Councilmembers Greuel, Smith and former Councilmember Villaraigosa on the feasibility of creating a citywide policy prohibiting roadwork on major thoroughfares during peak hours. The motion is on the Public Works Committee agenda at 9:00 a.m. and a special meeting of the Transportation Committee at 2:30 p.m.

City staff has informed us that the motion would have minimal impact on Metro's major construction projects.

Below are the links to the agenda items for the two LA City Council Committees:

Public Works Committee (Item # 8) -

http://lacity.org/clk/committeeagend/clkcommitteeagend2831533_08122005.pdf

Transportation Committee (Item # 1) -

http://lacity.org/clk/committeeagend/clkcommitteeagend3031621_08122005.pdf

Carol Inge Named Interim Chief Planning Officer

I have appointed Deputy Executive Officer Carol Inge as the interim Chief Planning Officer. I have also requested an outside search firm to conduct a recruitment for a permanent replacement. Jim de la Loza resigned this post, effective Aug. 19, to take a job in private industry.

Carol joined the SCRTD in 1987 as a joint development specialist, moving to the LACTC in 1990 as a Senior Project Manager in the Planning Department. She was named Director of the Westside Area Team in 1993 and was promoted to Deputy Executive Officer for Transportation Development and Implementation in 2001.

She earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Wellesley College in Boston and a master's degree in urban planning from UCLA.

Metro Orange Line Promoted

Media Relations staff participated in the Spanish language TV show, "De Todo Un Poco," which will air Tuesday, Aug. 16, on Channel 22. Staff promoted the Metro Orange Line and the new Metro Liner buses.

The host inquired about an alleged incident on Metro Bus line 333 in July where Latino customers claim they were ordered off the bus by the operator for speaking Spanish. Staff explained that Metro takes the charge seriously and is conducting a thorough investigation and stressed that Metro will not tolerate even a hint of racial intolerance. Diversity sensitivity is covered in operator training and management is reminding all operators of its importance.

Protest Planned at the Westside/Central Public Hearing

News planning editors at KCBS/KCAL-TV and Fox News called about a protest planned tonight at the Westside/Central public hearing regarding the alleged racial incident on Line 333 in July. It is possible news media may cover the protest though there is a separate protest on unrelated police shootings scheduled in Watts tonight at the same time.

Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 11

Transportation Concepts, Inc. made full rollout this morning. There were four drivers and four teamsters representatives walking the picket lines. The support from the Sheriffs has continued and there have been no incidents.

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