

Daily Brief

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CEO Roger Snoble

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Exposition Light Rail Transit Project Review

The USC Daily Trojan newspaper inquired today regarding the status of the public review period for the Final Environmental Impact Report/Statement (FEIR/FEIS) for the Exposition Line. Media Relations staff indicated that the public review period runs through November 28. The Exposition Construction Authority will review the comments at its December 1 meeting. The Metro Board will take action at its regular Board meeting scheduled for December 15. The reporter was told that staff held three community meetings in early November to brief the public about the project. The reporter was interested in knowing when a decision would be made on using either Hill Street or Flower Street for the alignment.

Go Metro With The Mayor

Mayor Villaraigosa plans to ride the Metro Red Line from Union Station this afternoon boarding at 5:10 p.m. and travel to Hollywood and Vine with LA City Councilmember Eric Garcetti to promote the "Go Metro with the Mayor" initiative. Media have been invited to ride with the Mayor and stories may air tonight and tomorrow regarding his ride on the Metro Red Line.

Metro Orange Line Continues Strong Ridership Trend

The Daily News today inquired about Metro Orange Line ridership for the second week of revenue service. Staff reported ridership trends continue to show strong average weekday boardings of around 10,000 per day. Final ridership numbers will be tabulated at the end of the month.

Progressive Railroading Magazine Story

Progressive Railroading Magazine is preparing a story for their December/

January issue regarding challenges and accomplishments that have been made this year and what is expected in 2006. I was interviewed by the reporter today and outlined several accomplishments Metro has achieved over the past year. These included, but are not limited to, the successfully opening of the Metro Orange Line in the San Fernando Valley, the delivery of two new rail cars for testing on the Metro Rail system, ongoing construction on the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, the Exposition Light Rail Line now under final environmental review and the results of the APTA Peer Review Tunneling Panel's report that indicates tunneling along the Wilshire corridor can be done safely. In addition, I mentioned the operational enhancements to the Metro Gold Line, which will include the implementation of limited express trips to speed travel times. Next year will bring the groundbreaking for the Exposition Light Rail Line, more rail car deliveries and continued construction progress on the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension.

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Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority 1 Gateway Plaza Los Angeles, California 90012-2952 Phone: 213-922-6888 Fax: 213-922-7447