Daily Brief

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State Treasurer Issues a Report on Infrastructure Investments

State Treasurer Phil Angelides issued a report today on his recommendations regarding a potential infrastructure bond program. In the report entitled "Smart Investments 2006", the Treasurer outlined broad principles that should guide such a program, including investing in livable communities, re-investing in "atrisk" communities, making investments that sustain economic growth, and using strong regional planning to guide decisions. More specifically, he underscored the need to maintain the will of the voters by fully funding Proposition 42 and repaying past transportation loans. The Treasurer also highlighted the importance of investing in mass transit

Congressman Waxman Decision On The Subway

A reporter from The Beverly Press at Park La Brea asked about Metro's reaction to Congressman Henry Waxman's decision to introduce legislation that would remove the ban on building subways in Los Angeles. Government Relations staff explained that Metro welcomes and fully supports the Congressman's effort to lift the current ban on federal funding on tunneling along the Wilshire Corridor. Metro Government Relations staff have worked with Congressman Waxman's aides to address the longstanding ban on tunneling that was enacted into law following a methane gas explosion and fire in the Fairfax area in 1985. Metro staff explained that the bill (H.R. 4571) being proposed by Congressman Waxman would, if passed into law, effectively reverse this tunneling restriction.

Use of Proposition A and C Funds

A Los Angeles Times editorial staff writer today requested information about Proposition A & C and if there was any money left to be used for the construction of the subway. Metro staff responded that due to 1998 Accountability Act the agency was prohibited from using Prop A and C funds to build subways. Also, with bus service expansion, any money left over is used to operate and maintain the bus and rail system, leaving a limited amount of money for capital improvements to the rail system. The information will be used for an editorial piece to be published in the near future.

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Tunnel Boring Machine Photos Requested

Eastern Group Publications and Wave Newspapers requested pictures of the Tunnel Boring Machine that took place last week at the future Mariachi Plaza station of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension. Both bilingual publications (English & Spanish) publish a total of 20 weeklies that cover from the northeast to the southeast of Los Angeles and central and south Los Angeles. Stories with pictures will appear this week.

September Metro Ridership Increased 6.7% From '04 To '05

American Public Transit Association requested ridership numbers from September 2004 and September 2005 for the Metro Rail & Bus system to compare changes in ridership. According to our records, ridership from September 2004 to September 2005 increased 6.7%. A story is scheduled to run in the next issue of Passenger Transport.

Rose Queen Metro Gold Line Promotion

KTTV Fox 11, Pasadena Star News, La Opinion, Asian Pacific News, Chinese Daily News, Taiwan Press, China Press, Sing Tao Daily, Arcadia Weekly, South Pasadena Review, Pasadena Independent, L.A. Downtown News and SkyLink TV, Channel 18 attended this morning's media event with Rail Operations General Manager Gerald Francis and I to promote Metro service to the 117th Annual Tournament of Roses festivities. Metro remains the quickest, easiest way to get in and out of Pasadena for the parade, post-parade float viewing, the Pasadena Food Bowl and football game. We also promoted free rides on Metro Bus and Rail Christmas and New Year's Eve and Day.

Of Note

Working with the Tournament of Roses to promote transit service is a tradition that dates back to 1954 when predecessor company Metropolitan Coach Lines (1953-1958) first issued press releases and publicity photos featuring Rose Queen Barbara Schmidt. The tradition has continued over the years with the

Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority (1958-1964), the Southern California Rapid Transit District (1964-1993) and with today's Metro.



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