

Daily Brief

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Metro Gold Line Twin Tunnel Excavation to Start the First Week in February

During the first week of February the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension contractor will begin excavating the twin tunnels. We will probably have at least 24 hours notice as to when the machines will start excavating. Media Relations plans to do a photo opportunity press event underground during which a switch will be pressed and the machines will begin to move. We will continue to keep you informed as we learn when the contractor determines the date and time for the start of excavation.

LA City Council Supports H. R. 4653 (Waxman)

The Los Angeles City Council voted today to support the passage of H.R. 4653, introduced by Congressman Henry Waxman, which would rescind the federal prohibition against tunneling in Los Angeles. This Thursday's Board agenda includes the Executive Management and Audit Committee's recommendation (Item # 35) to support H.R. 4653.

APTA 2006 Transit CEOs Seminar

APTA Transit CEOs Seminar for 2006 will be held on January 29 through 31 at the Hyatt Regency in Long Beach. The conference, which has a theme, "Investing Today for a Brighter Tomorrow" will deal on several key issues in the industry including: Leading Trends Affecting Public Transportation's Long Term Investments, Organizing for Results: APTA OrgDNA Research, Transit's National Emergency Response from Preparation to Implementation, and Creating a Culture of Mobility Management to name a few. I will be one of the

panel members that will give insights on what have been done to improve the OrgDNA in our organization.

Metro Orange Line Accidents and Near Misses

KNX News Radio interviewed Media Relations today regarding the Metro Orange Line Near Miss Report presented at Metro's Operations Committee Meeting on January 19. That presentation revealed near misses on the Metro Orange Line have been declining steadily since the line opened October 29. Staff reported that, along with near misses, accidents per 100,000 miles of service are also decreasing as well and is well below Metro's system wide average. The story is expected to air this afternoon.

Metro Gold Line Limited Stop Service

The Pasadena Star News interview rail operation staff today regarding the new limited stop service to be provided on the Metro Gold Line effective February 13. The story on the new service is expected to run tomorrow. Staff reported that some Metro Gold Line customer may have to adjust to the new schedules which will be on-line by the end of this week.

Wilshire Boulevard Bus-Only Lane Project

A reporter with Canyon News report in Beverly Hills inquired today regarding the Wilshire Boulevard Bus-Only lane project. The reporter was told that the concept of a bus-only lane along Wilshire Boulevard is that as traffic gets worse, Metro Buses get caught in the same traffic conditions. A bus-only lane along this heavily traveled corridor will not only speed up the service, but also provide dependable service that our riding passengers can count on as they plan their commute to and from work. The story is expected to run next week.

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