Daily Brief

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Eastside Review Advisory Committee's Ad-Hoc Sub Committee

Metro Community Relations convened the first meeting of the Review Advisory Committee's Ad-Hoc Sub Committee on the LA County Crematorium issue last night at the Boyle Heights Senior Citizen Center. The committee is composed of 14 community members and is inclusive of the Eastside and Chinatown communities. The scope of the Ad-Hoc Sub Committee is to receive public feedback and provide guidance on the re-interment plan, multi-cultural/non-denominational ceremony and memorial. The attendees were briefed on the background and chronology of the LA County Crematorium site, as well as a status on the Crematorium recovery effort. The next Ad Hoc Sub-committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2006, 6:30 p.m. at the Boyle Heights Senior Citizen Center.

Goods Movement Action Plan Meetings Continue

Today, the Secretaries of Business, Transportation and Housing and the California Environmental Protection Agency hosted meetings relating to the development of a Goods Movement Action Plan. The Integrating Working Group discussed the Phase II Progress Report - A Framework for Action, which outlines some proposed strategies for the development of goods movement infrastructure projects. This report is available on-line at www.calepa.ca.gov. A link to the Goods Movement Action Plan is also available from this page. Comments from today's session will be incorporated into a report, which will be considered at a future meeting.

State Senator Margett Introduces Metro Board Restructuring Bill

Yesterday, State Senator Bob Margett (29-R) introduced a new bill proposal SB

1507, a bill which establishes the following Metro board structure: Five members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; The Mayor of the City of Los Angeles; One public member and one member of the Los Angeles City Council appointed by the Mayor; and, five elected official members selected by the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee (excluding the City of Los Angeles) representing the five sectors. The sectors include San Fernando, Westside/Central, San Gabriel, Gateway and Southbay regions in Los Angeles County.

Metro staff will continue to monitor SB 1507. For more details, below is the link to the bill. http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb 1501-1550/sb 1507 bill 20060223 introduced.html

Metro Red Line Barrier Free Fare System

The Los Angeles Times is preparing a story to run over the weekend on fare evasion on the Metro Red Line. As part of the story, the reporter will include a motion approved by the Board yesterday asking staff to report back in April on the cost of installing a barrier system on the Metro Red Line. The reporter interviewed representatives of the LASD as well as APTA representatives on the use of fare barrier systems in transit systems across the nation. Metro currently budgets approximately \$750,000 in citation fees that are returned to the agency, however these include all citations issued on the Metro system. Fines levied for fare evasion can be up to \$250 depending on court action.

Work of Local Muralist on Metro Construction Walls in Boyle Heights

Artist Paul Botello has begun painting a very large colorful mural on the construction fence walls at First Street and Boyle Avenue. Metro Art commissioned Botello, a highly recognized local muralist, for the project after reviewing 22 applicants for the project. Entitled "Global Los Angeles" the work includes an abstract view of Los Angeles as well as historical imagery from the Boyle Heights area. "These spheres are symbols that represent individual worlds, globes of culture and history," says Botello. "These worlds also represent the different people and ethnicities that make up this specific Boyle Heights community." The work is expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events

Next week, I will be meeting with Guy Mehula, Deputy Chief Facilities Executive, New Construction of the Los Angeles Unified School District. Starting on Wednesday, March 1, I will be out of the office and returning on March 7. During my absence, John Catoe will act on my behalf with full signature authority.

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