



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

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CEO Roger Snoble

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## Color Designations For New And Existing Transit Lines

The Daily News inquired today about Metro's recommendation to the Board on proposed color designations for new and existing transit lines. Slated for a decision at next week's Executive Management and Audit Committee meeting, the board item asks the committee to consider the adoption of the color aqua to designate the Metro Rail Mid-City/Exposition Rail Transit Project, the color silver to designate the El Monte Expressway, the color bronze to designate the Harbor Expressway, and the color purple to designate the Union Station to Wilshire/Western subway line and potential extensions when and if such extensions are funded. Staff reported that the purpose of designating colors for these services is to improve customer identification of Metro's overall transportation system and to present the most effective colors possible for Metro communications materials, including maps and signage. The story is expected to run in the next week.

## Restoration Of Lankershim Depot Transit Center

The Daily News inquired about Metro's Planning and Programming Committee recommendation to become the sponsoring agency in charge of restoring the Lankershim Depot Transit Center adjacent the Metro Orange Line Station in North Hollywood. The CRA has been sponsoring the depot, which has experienced several delays and forecasted construction cost escalations since the 1999 Call for Projects. Metro's proposed life of project budget is \$3.6 million. Funding would go toward stabilizing the substructure of the depot, installation of bathrooms for bus operators and office space for the L.A. County Sheriff's Department. Metro is now considering utilizing depot space as a much-needed customer service center. The story is expected to run in the next week.

## APTA Quality Assurance Review

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In January 2006, APTA conducted an external quality assurance review (QAR) of the Management Audit Services (MAS) department. MAS has received a draft report from QAR team which states that MAS substantially complied with professional auditing standards and practiced effective internal audit quality control procedures during the period reviewed (fiscal year ended June 30, 2005). This opinion means that the policies and procedures followed by MAS are in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards.

The QAR team has noted some areas that can be improved including 1) comprehensive risk based approach to determine which audits to include in an audit universe, 2) better documentation of the review of prior audits and the status of recommendations from previous audit engagements, 3) formalize the method for tracking time to audits, 4) conduct a workpaper and report writing class for staff, and 5) finalize policy for audit follow-up system and track all recommendations including those not agreed to by management.

MAS has already implemented four of the suggested changes and has scheduled the workpaper and report writing training class for next month.

APTA will submit the final report to the Chairman of the Board and me within the next few weeks. A copy of the report will be made available to all Board members.

### **Take Metro to L.A. Marathon**

The 21st annual Los Angeles Marathon will be held on Sunday March 19, 2006. Metro Rail is the best way for race fans to get close to the L.A. Marathon with eight Metro Rail stations just a short walking distance from the racecourse. The best stations to follow the marathon will be the Metro Red Line stations at 7th/Metro and Pershing Square, just a few blocks away from the beginning and the end of the 26.2-mile course at 5th and Figueroa Streets and 5th and Flower Streets. The 26-mile L.A. Marathon course runs throughout the Central City area and will impact 49 Metro Bus lines in downtown Los Angeles, Mid-City, USC/Exposition Park, West Adams, Mid-Wilshire, Hancock Park, Beverly Hills, Crenshaw District and Koreatown. Approximately 50 Metro Transit Operations Supervisors and four Metro Field Equipment Technicians are assigned at various points along the route and at the Command Post to ensure a smooth and safe operation. Service changes and detours for the Metro Bus system will occur between the hours of 4 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 19. We are advising customers to allow additional travel time to ensure they reach their destination on time due to the extensive detours and traffic delays. All Metro Rail lines will run as scheduled without interruptions.

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Phone: 213-922-6888  
Fax: 213-922-7447

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