



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

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## **Congressional Budget Office Analyzes Economic Impacts of Potential Terrorist Attacks on Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach**

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) today released a study that examines the national economic impacts of a terrorist attack on the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The study, entitled "The Economic Costs of Disruption in Container Shipments", focuses on two specific disruption scenarios: 1) An unexpected one-week halt to all container traffic through the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and 2) an unexpected three-year halt to all container traffic through these two ports as well as an initial precautionary one-week stoppage of container shipments at all U.S. ports.

Under the first scenario, CBO concludes that closing the two ports for one week would cost the U.S. economy as much as \$150 million per day. CBO also found that job losses for the week could be quite large since the port shutdown would affect low-wage industries with relatively high numbers of employees more than high-wage industries with fewer employees. In the second scenario, if the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach were closed for three years, losses of Gross Domestic Product and imports would be much larger and would not be recouped after the shutdown. CBO estimates that a three-year shutdown would reduce GDP by \$45 billion to \$70 billion per year, which translates into daily costs ranging from \$125 million to \$200 million. Additionally, CBO found that a long-term shutdown scenario would lead to a significant loss of income and jobs in Southern California, largely due to the fact that shipments to and from the two ports would be diverted to other west coast ports.

The CBO analysis, which is attached below, was prepared at the request of U.S. Senator Norm Coleman (R-MN), Chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

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## **Infrastructure Bond Update**

Legislative leadership continues to discuss a possible infrastructure bond measure. Metro's advocacy team is working with legislative leadership and the members of the Los Angeles County Delegation. As these discussions move forward we are learning that members of the Republican caucus are attempting to reduce the amount of funding for transit in the bond. Moving funds out of transit and into other programs could reduce the amount of funds available to Los Angeles County.

## **Metro Blue Line Service Restored**

Metro announces that regular Metro Blue Line service is scheduled to resume early tomorrow morning, Friday, March 31 to transport transit riders between Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Today crews completed repairs resulting from a March 20 accident that damaged a portion of the Blue Line's overhead power system on its southbound track near Artesia Station. Major repairs included the replacement overhead power lines, installation of new guide wire poles and pole foundations

Metro is currently operating train service on the restored track, but is enforcing a slow-speed restriction of 25 mph in the vicinity of the repaired track section. Trains will not run according to their normal schedules until tomorrow morning, when regular service is fully restored.

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