



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

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### **Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension - Discovery Update**

A reporter from KPCC Radio interviewed Community and Media Relations staff today about the human remains discovered at 1st/Lorena during construction of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension. The chronology of discoveries was provided, along with notification to the public and information about the handling of the discoveries of human remains and artifacts unearthed. Staff emphasized that Metro is working closely with the Chinese Community and others stakeholders on the Ad-Hoc Sub Committee to devise a plan for re-interment, a fitting ceremony and memorial. A story will be broadcasted later next week.

### **Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension - Indiana Station Options Workshop**

About 100 community members attended a workshop yesterday evening during which Metro staff presented options for the proposed Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Indiana Street Station. After the four options were presented by Rick Thorpe, Chief Capital Management Officer, community members were invited to make public comments and/or ask questions. The public comments reflected the community's support of Option 1A – rebuilding Ramona Opportunity High School and Option 1B – reconfiguring Ramona Opportunity High School. None of the community members' comments supported Options 2A or 2B; both of which would move the station to 3rd Street. After the presentation, LAUSD Officials provided their comments and answered questions.

The purpose of the meeting was to receive feedback from the community prior to staff recommendations at the May 3, 2006 Board meeting.

### **Update On I-710 (South) Major Corridor Study (MCS)**

The Tier 2 Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for the I-710 MCS held its last

meeting on April 19 to receive the "Mini-Study" recommendations of the East Los Angeles and Commerce Local Tier 1 CACs. These recommendations are incorporated into the I-710 Locally Preferred Strategy (LPS) which will be included in any EIR/EIS for the I-710. Incorporation of these recommendations completes the MCS.

Staff provided the Tier 2 CAC an overview of the Compendium of Near-Term Air Quality Strategies for the I-710 Corridor which will be presented to the I-710 Executive Committee on May 3.

The I-710 Executive Committee includes Director Don Knabe, representing Metro, Director Gloria Molina, representing County of Los Angeles, Director Yvonne Burke as President of SCAG, Director Bonnie Lowenthal representing Gateway Cities COG, Caltrans District 7 Director Doug Failing, Port of Los Angeles Commissioner Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza, Port of Long Beach Commissioner Dr. Mike Walter, and the Co-Chairs of the I-710 Project Committee which will be formed on April 27.

The Mini-Study, the Compendium, and the formation of the I-710 Executive Committee fulfill three of the four items from the Board's Motion approved at its January 2005 meeting which identified requirements that must be met prior to the initiation of an EIR/EIS. The fourth item is the EIR/EIS funding plan which will be completed by June, 2006.

The Tier 2 CAC received commendations from Assemblyman Hector de la Torre, Director Lowenthal and Larry Nelson, 1st VP of the GCCOG for their nearly 2-years of work toward the development of the consensus-based LPS and MCS.

### **Metro Ridership Growth Vs. High Cost Of Gas**

KABC Eyewitness News interviewed Metro Red Line passengers today at the 7th Street/Metro Center Station in downtown Los Angeles about the high cost of gasoline and their use of public transit as an alternative to paying high fuel costs. KFWB also interviewed Media Relations staff today about the high cost of gas and growing ridership on the Metro system. Stories are expected to air tonight and tomorrow morning. The Metro Red Line ridership for the month of March has increased 13.74 percent compared to a year ago. Ridership growth on the Metro Bus system rose 6.63 percent with the Metro Blue Line increasing 10.73 percent and the Metro Green Line increasing 10.01 percent. The Metro Gold line remained flat decreasing .54 percent.

### **New L.E.D. "Train" Signs Installed In Long Beach**

Media Relations issued a news release today announcing the completion of installation of 59 L.E.D "TRAIN" active warning signs at all left turn lanes on Long Beach Boulevard and Pacific Avenue in the City of Long Beach. The goal of the

safety program is to help mitigate the left turn accidents in the street-running portion of the Metro Blue Line and follows the success of similar warning signs that were installed in downtown Los Angeles. The release notes that since installing the warning signs in downtown Los Angeles, left hand turn accidents have been reduced by 71 percent over the past six years.

Link to news release:

[http://www.metro.net/news\\_info/press/metro\\_052.htm#TopOfPage](http://www.metro.net/news_info/press/metro_052.htm#TopOfPage)

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