



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

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**CEO Roger Snoble**

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## **Senators Feinstein and Boxer Join Colleagues in Urging Full Funding for Transit**

California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer recently joined thirty six of their colleagues in urging the Senate to fully fund the federal transit program at the level authorized by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which was enacted into law last year. In a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate's Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, thirty eight Senators declared that a "substantial investment in our nation's transit systems is critical to our ability to sustain America's economic growth." The letter also criticized the President's Fiscal Year 2007 Budget for not fully funding the newly created "Small Starts" capital investment program.

## **Visiting Congressional Aides To Learn More About Metro Transportation Security**

A number of Congressional aides and a representative from Governor Schwarzenegger's office in Washington, DC will be visiting southern California next week for a transportation security tour. While here, they will learn more about Metro's transportation security program and the needs we have to further enhance the safety of all Metro passengers. The Congressional aides will also be touring the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Emergency Control Center and the Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control (ATSAC) System operated by the City of Los Angeles. Please contact Raffi

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Hamparian at (213) 922-3769 if you would like to participate in a transportation security briefing for these staffers that Metro will be hosting on May 31, 2009 at 9 a.m. at the Malibu Conference Room. Metro's briefing will feature presentations from our Director of Intelligence and Emergency Preparedness Management, Paul Lennon and Captain Dan Finkelstein.

### **FTA Issues New Starts Policy Guidance**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today issued final policy guidance on the New Starts transit program. The guidance, which appeared in today's Federal Record, explains proposed changes to the New Starts program. The changes are primarily technical in nature and address procedural matters, such as reporting deadlines for the Annual Report on New Starts.

A new element of the program that was announced today is the introduction of Project Development Agreements (PDAs) between project sponsors and FTA. According to FTA, this new tool is designed to assist local sponsors that are experiencing delays or difficulties in advancing through the New Starts evaluation process. The PDA would identify specific issues to be resolved, products to be completed and schedules for reaching key milestones during the preliminary engineering and final design phases. PDA's are not required for every project, but rather will be implemented only when mutually agreed upon by FTA and the project sponsor.

FTA intends to launch future rulemaking procedures on additional longer-term changes to the New Starts program. A copy of today's policy guidance can be accessed at [http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf96/398975\\_web.pdf](http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/pdf96/398975_web.pdf)

### **Metro Honored For Cable Television Show**

LA in a Day Via Metro, a local travel show co-produced by Metro and LA City Channel 36, has won a Telly Award for travel and tourism shows. Telly is a prestigious honor that recognizes top industry professionals in television, advertising and marketing from around the world. LA in a Day Via Metro is a popular show that is distributed to several dozen cable television operators throughout Los Angeles County. It features two hosts who ride Metro buses and trains to local fun destinations. The most recent show, now airing, spotlights Sunset Boulevard from the Pacific Ocean to downtown Los Angeles via Metro Bus Lines 2 and 302.

### **Go Metro To First Lummi Day Arts Festival**

Media Relations distributed a news release today encouraging people to use the Metro Gold Line to the first Lummi Day Arts Festival being held on Sunday, June 4. The release notes that people can take the Metro Gold Line to the Southwest Museum station and walk about 10 minutes to the Charles F. Lummi

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Home & Garden and nearby Sycamore Grove Park and enjoy the spirit, diverse culture and history of LA's northeast neighborhoods and travel there in comfort on Metro.

[http://www.metro.net/news\\_info/press/metro\\_080.htm](http://www.metro.net/news_info/press/metro_080.htm)

## **Regional Transportation Commissions CEOs**

At the Regional Transportation Commissions CEOs meeting last week, we discussed the proposed RFP process for the 511 transportation information line, the continued support for the Southern California Freight MOU, the Metrolink FY 06-07 Budget/Allocation Formula from all of the Transportation Commissions and the upcoming meeting with Sen. Feinstein's staff regarding her interest in having one comprehensive Goods Movement Plan for Southern California.

I will continue to keep the Board informed of any new developments with these ongoing issues.

## **Of Note**

On this date in 1937, the first collective bargaining agreements for employees of predecessor companies Los Angeles Railway (1911-1945) and Los Angeles Motor Coach (1923-1949) went into effect. Employee committees were organized around broad work categories such as Coach Cleaners, Train Service, Coach Operators, Ways and Structures, and the South Park Shops to negotiate the agreements on wages, hours and working conditions. The initial labor organization was called the Transportation Union of California, Local Number 1. Employees elected to become part of ATU 1277 three years later, effective March 1, 1940.

When predecessor agency Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority (1951-1964) became a transit operator in 1958, an election was held in 1959 to determine the future representation of employees. Mechanics and Service Attendants elected to stay with ATU 1277 and Bus/Rail Operators elected to be represented by UTU, then known as the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, that represented employees of Pacific Electric, Metropolitan Coach Lines and Asbury Rapid Transit since 1934. These historic contracts are contained in the Archive of the Metro Research Center/Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library.

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