

Daily Brief

Tuesday June 20, 2006 20060620-0

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Valley Transit Improvements Press Event Rescheduled

Metro has rescheduled the Valley Transit Improvements Press Event for this Friday, June 23rd, 2006 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Van Nuys Metro Orange Line Station Park & Ride lot located at the corner of Van Nuys Boulevard and Aetna Street (just South of Victory Boulevard). Metro's newest Metro Rapid Line, 734, which runs along Sepulveda Boulevard, will be introduced. High-capacity articulated buses on Metro Rapid Line 761 and 45-foot buses on Metro Rapid Line 750 will also be presented at this time. These improvements all become effective this Sunday, June 25th.

New Automatic Cash Collection Process Implemented

Last week, Metro implemented a new automated cash collection processing tool for rent and lease payments. Under this new system, all lessees and renters submit their payments directly to our bank, where money is deposited into our account immediately. The bank then electronically forwards the images of checks and any other enclosed correspondence to our Financial Information System (FIS) where it is available for viewing by all appropriate staff. This improvement eliminates the old deposit cycle (involving the mailroom, internal distribution and manual delivery to the bank) while also strengthening internal controls.

Former Operator Enters Guilty Plea for Workers' Compensation Fraud

A former Metro operator, who was arrested in November 2005, entered a guilty plea for misdemeanor insurance fraud last week. This plea will not be final until the operator has completed at least 125 of their mandatory 250 hours of community service by the time of their sentencing hearing on September 13th. If these conditions are not met by the sentencing date, the plea will be reverted

back to a felony conviction. Division 2 staff played an active role in securing this plea by attending court hearings in support of Metro.

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