



Metro

Daily Brief

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CEO Roger Snoble

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Media Briefed on Labor Agreements

This morning, Deputy Chief Executive Officer John Catoe briefed reporters from the *Los Angeles Times*, *Los Angeles Daily News* and City News Service regarding the ATU and UTU labor agreements. This briefing was scheduled in light of the fact that the two unions recently voted to ratify their contracts. Stories are expected to run later today and tomorrow. John Catoe again emphasized the successful cooperative process that was used for negotiating the contracts, and the desire for all parties to continue strengthening relationships. The TCU membership will vote on their agreement this Thursday.

Reporters inquired about the cost of the contracts and were told that they will total \$144 million over the next three years. Recent budget reductions made by the Board are expected to offset most of the first-year costs, requiring an amendment to the FY 2007 budget of \$12.5 million. Additionally, it was noted that these contracts are similar in cost to recent settlements with other transit authorities.

Of Note

On July 4, 1902 Henry E. Huntington and the Pacific Electric opened the Long Beach Line from 6th & Main in Los Angeles to Ocean Blvd & Pacific. The Long Beach Line was the first Pacific Electric line to have been conceived, designed and constructed in its entirety with high speed operation in mind. The line cost \$960,000 to build. Trains ran every 15 minutes beginning at 6:00am and over 30,000 people rode the Red Cars to Long Beach on opening day. In the decade following, Long Beach saw its population increase by 610%. The Long Beach Line was Pacific Electric's highest ridership line and continued in operation until April 1961 when it was shut down by the LAMTA (1958-1964) due to a lack of capital funding. The line was resurrected in the 1990s with the opening of the Metro Blue Line, and continues to enjoy the highest ridership among Metro's light rail lines.

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