



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

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**CEO Roger Snoble**

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## **One Million Safe Working Hours Achieved on Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Project**

Earlier today, Chair Gloria Molina and I attended a celebration for the construction workers at the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension construction field offices in Boyle Heights. The barbeque celebration honored Eastside LRT Constructors and our Construction Management Team for achieving one million safe working hours without incurring any lost time incidents since the beginning of construction in July 2004. This represents a major achievement in construction safety for Metro and its Contractor considering the nature of the heavy construction work performed by many workers over the large Eastside Project area.

The Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension is a six-mile Light Rail Transit project consisting of eight stations, extending from Union Station and the Little Tokyo Arts District through Boyle Heights to the intersection of Atlantic and Pomona in East Los Angeles. The Project includes the construction of a 1.7 mile twin-bored tunnel, two underground stations and six at-grade stations.

## **Metro Safety Education Manager Addresses International Operation Lifesaver Symposium and Training Seminar**

Metro's Transit Safety Education/Outreach Manager was invited to address the

14th International Operation Lifesaver Symposium and Training Seminar, "Spotlight on Safety." Four hundred people attended the conference held in Anaheim this week, July 9 through 12. The seminar was sponsored by the Federal Railroad Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and the Federal Highway Administration. Metro's program has been recognized nationwide as a leader in the development and implementation of a successful safety education and outreach program for light rail safety.

### **Qualified Technical Equipment Defeased Lease Transaction Update**

We received notice from Bank of America today that the institution has decided not to proceed with our current Qualified Technical Equipment (QTE) Defeased Lease Transaction. QTE-based defeased lease transactions receive special tax treatment under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Some of the equipment covered under this contract includes train control equipment, rail communications equipment, a passenger information system and intrusion equipment. Bank of America was approved as the investor for this transaction by the Board in October 2005. At that time, it was estimated that Metro would receive approximately \$9 million in upfront cash benefits for a successful transaction closing. Recovery of damages will be sought through the "broken deal" provisions of the original agreement.

### **U.S. Senate Defeats Effort to Increase Transit Security Grants**

Last night, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved the FY 2007 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. The measure contains \$150 million for transit and rail security, which contrasts with the House-passed spending measure allocating \$200 million in security funding. Consequently, the two pieces of legislation will next be heard before a conference committee, set to convene this fall.

### **Los Angeles City Council Approves Expo MCA**

Earlier today, the Los Angeles City Council approved the Master Cooperative Agreement (MCA) between the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority, Metro and the City. The MCA identifies the roles and responsibilities of each party in the design and construction of the Mid-City/Exposition Light Rail Transit Project. Metro staff met with City and Expo staff yesterday to incorporate several suggested changes into the document. The MCA is expected to go before the Expo Board next month for approval. The item will also be placed on Metro's August Board agenda.

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## **Go Metro to Third Annual Wheelchair Wash Event**

Media Relations issued a news release today encouraging patrons to use the Metro system to attend the Third Annual Wheelchair Wash, sponsored by Familia Unida Living with Multiple Sclerosis. The event will take place on Saturday, July 29 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 4716 Cesar E. Chavez Ave. People are being encouraged to use Metro Bus Lines 68 or 368 to participate in the Wheelchair Wash. Mayor Villaraigosa is expected to attend.

## **Upcoming CEO Meetings and Events**

Next week, I will be meeting individually with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Supervisor Yaroslavsky and Directors Fasana, Fleming, Lowenthal, and Najarian. Additionally, I will be interviewed by Jean Guccione of the L.A. Times. I will also attend the Regional Technical Advisory Committee Meeting and the Regionwide CEO meeting.

## **Of Note**

On July 15, 1990, the Los Angeles-Long Beach Metro Blue Line opened between Pico Boulevard in Los Angeles and Anaheim Street in Long Beach. July 15<sup>th</sup> also marks the 1973 opening of the first segment of the El Monte Busway, from the El Monte Station to the 710 freeway.

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