



Metro

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CEO Roger Snoble

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Former Transportation Chairman Wins GOP Gubernatorial Primary in Oklahoma

Representative Ernest Istook (R-OK), former chairman of the House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, emerged as the top vote-getter in yesterday's Republican gubernatorial primary in Oklahoma. He received 56% of the vote in the crowded field and will face Democratic Governor, Brad Henry, in November.

During his tenure as chairman of the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, Istook played an influential role in paving the way for the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension. Istook initially expressed misgivings over the project and viewed it as lacking in cost-effectiveness. However, he eventually saw the merits of the extension after personally touring the alignment and he ultimately endorsed the Full Funding Grant Agreement. Istook will leave Congress at the end of this year after having served seven terms.

Eastside Full Funding Grant Agreement to Be Subject of FTA Case Study

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has enlisted the services of Deloitte & Touche to conduct a comprehensive review of the New Starts program. The consulting firm will attempt to identify specific procedural and administrative practices that can be used to improve the New Starts delivery process. Towards that end, Deloitte will be engaged in discussions with grantees, including Metro, to ascertain specific strengths and weaknesses of the New Starts program. The consulting firm intends to conduct case studies and interview project sponsors of the last six Full Funding Grant Agreements (FFGA), including the Metro Gold

Line Eastside Extension project. Other recent FFGAs have been awarded to Dallas, Salt Lake City, Cleveland, Phoenix, and Charlotte.

Wilshire / Western Groundbreaking Event

Board Chair Gloria Molina, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Supervisors Yvonne Burke and Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles City Councilman Herb Wesson and I gathered this morning to officially mark the beginning of construction for Metro's newest joint development project at the intersection of Wilshire and Western. The mixed-use development, set to open in fall 2008, marks a new day for truly urban, transit-centered living in Los Angeles, and is the first such development to be built for the Koreatown/Wilshire Center community. The project is yet another strong indication that the Metro Red Line has finally matured, with new developments becoming bigger, grander and more pronounced. Numerous television, print and radio media outlets covered the groundbreaking ceremony and stories expected to run today and tomorrow.



El Sereno Route 710 Tunnel Feasibility Community Meeting Recap

Last night, State Senator Gloria Romero, Los Angeles City Councilman Jose Huizar, Director Doug Failing and Metro staff addressed a community meeting at the El Sereno Senior Center on the topic of the Route 710 Preliminary Tunnel Feasibility Assessment. Staff members representing numerous other elected officials were also in attendance. Approximately 75 community members gathered for the two hour meeting.

Metro Rail System Featured in Downtown News

Earlier today, I was interviewed for a feature story by the *Los Angeles Downtown News* on the topics of the Metro Rail system and Metro Rail's General Manager, Gerald Francis. Gerald Francis guided the reporter on a tour of all four Metro Rail lines last week, accompanied by a photographer. The story, which should

run next week, is expected to highlight the system and how well it is operated by Gerald Francis and his staff.

Of Note

On July 26, 2003, the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Gold Line opened. The opening marked the first time in almost 50 years that downtown Los Angeles and communities along the way to Pasadena were connected by light-rail service.



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