Daily Brief

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State Legislative Update

Metro's Government Relations staff members continue to work on a number of measures making their way through the last phases of the 2006-07 Legislative Session. The following is an update on the bills on which staff is moving forward:

- Senate Bill 1726, authored by Senator Alan Lowenthal, authorizes the use of multi-colored headsigns on transit vehicles. This measure was passed by the Senate Floor and will soon be transmitted to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for his approval.
- Senate Bill 1749, authored by Senator Carol Migden, authorizes the creation of local "transit courts." SB 1749 was also approved by the Senate and will soon be transmitted to the Governor for his signature.
- Lastly, <u>Senate Bill 1384</u>, authored by Senator Sheila Kuehl, which clarifies the duties of the Exposition Construction Authority, will soon be considered by the Senate for its final vote before being forwarded to the Governor.

San Fernando Valley Great Pumpkin Half Marathon Update

In January of this year, the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley and State Assemblyman Lloyd Levine (D-Van Nuys) proposed to conduct the San Fernando valley Great Pumpkin Half Marathon along the Orange Line right-of-way. The proposal was considered by the Board in March of this year. At this hearing, Metro staff was directed to work with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, the Los Angeles Police Department's Valley Bureau and CalTrans to resolve outstanding issues regarding the planning of this event. At this time, Assemblyman Levine has expressed the desire to postpone further consideration of this event. During the interim, his staff plans to explore a variety

of alternative routes and locations for the race. Metro remains available to work with the Assemblyman's office and the City of Los Angeles and we look forward to proceeding on this event in the future.

Metro Board Actions

Numerous media outlets covered today's Metro Board meeting, with particular attention paid to Items #36 and #37 pertaining to color designations. Additionally, today's Board action to approve funds for a new pilot project to recruit and train future bus operators has also generated significant media interest. Stories on both items are expected to run today and tomorrow.

Metro Blue Line Accidents

La Opinión may publish a story as early as tomorrow on recent fatalities on the Metro Blue Line. Staff outlined all safety measures already in place to ensure safe operation of Blue Line trains, and detailed its new task force which will further evaluate train safety measures.

Of Note

On this date in 1976, the California State Legislature passed Assembly Bill 1246 (1976, Ingalls) to create four transportation commissions in Southern California's Orange, Ventura, Riverside and Los Angeles Counties. AB 1246 specifically required Metro's predecessor agency, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (1977-1993), to approve all plans and funding with respect to transit capital development, transit operations and highway capital development. These responsibilities were later carried over to Metro.

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