Daily Brief

Monday September 25, 2006 20060925-0

CEO Roger Snoble

In this issue:

- Homeland Security Department Awards Grants
- Transportation Secretary Nominee Approved by Senate Committee
- Reserve the Date/Upcoming Events

Homeland Security Department Awards Grants

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced earlier today that Metro and other regional transit agencies will receive a Transit Security Grant (TSG) in the amount of \$6.2 million. The grant will provide \$4 million for rail security, an amount that will be shared locally between Metro and Metrolink. The grant also provides \$2.2 million for intracity bus security for Metro and other regional transit agencies. The TSG program will provide a total of \$135 million in security grants this fiscal year for rail, bus and ferry systems nationwide. Funding allocations for these grants were based on threat and risk analysis studies conducted by DHS.

DHS also announced today that the twin ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles will receive \$12 million in Port Security Grants. These grants are designed to enhance domain awareness in the port environment, provide protection from improvised explosive devices and bolster defenses against non-conventional methods of attack.

Transportation Secretary Nominee Approved by Senate Committee

The U.S. Senate's Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee voted unanimously today to approve Mary Peters as the nation's next transportation secretary. Peters secured bipartisan support for her nomination hearing last week, during which a number of Senators praised her leadership as the head of the Federal Highway Administration (2001 through 2005) and the Arizona Department of Transportation (1998 through 2001). The full Senate is expected to vote to approve Ms. Peters' nomination by the end of this week. If approved, she would be only the second female Transportation Secretary in U.S. history, joining Senator Elizabeth Dole who led the department from 1983 to 1987.

Reserve the Date/Upcoming Events

CalACT Autumn Conference – Wednesday September 27th to Friday September 29th

The California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT) Autumn Conference is scheduled at the Hilton Burbank Airport and Convention Center from Wednesday September 27 to Friday September 29. Supervisor Molina will speak at the opening ceremonies. CalACT is the forum for the smaller transportation providers in California as well as the non-profit agencies who transport persons with disabilities and seniors

I-710 Executive Committee Meeting – Thursday September 28th

The next meeting of the I-710 Executive Committee is scheduled for Thursday September 28 in the Board Room at 1:30 p.m. following the Metro Board meeting.

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension RAC Ad-Hoc Committee – Thursday September 28th

The September meeting of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Review Advisory Committee (RAC) Ad-Hoc Subcommittee is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday September 28 at the Alpine Recreation Center located at 817 Yale Street in Chinatown. The meeting agenda will include a discussion on the disposition of artifacts found during excavation and a report on progress made at Evergreen Cemetery regarding the availability of re-interring the remains there.

Exposition Light Rail Groundbreaking – Friday September 29th

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Exposition Light Rail project will be Friday, September 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. to mark the start of the Exposition Light Rail construction. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. The location is the Exposition Blvd. median between West Boulevard and Hillcrest Drive, which is approximately 1/4 mile west of Crenshaw Boulevard.

CMP Nexus Study Phase II Program Implementation – Tuesday October 3rd

The kick-off meeting of the Congestion mitigation Fee Policy Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday October 3, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the LA Area Chamber of Commerce located at 350 South Bixel Street in Los Angeles. Metro is conducting a study to determine the feasibility of implementing a countywide Congestion Mitigation Fee that calls on new development to help pay for regional transportation

improvements. This study will be completed by Summer 2007.

APTA Annual Meeting - Sunday October 8 to Wednesday October 11th

The APTA Annual Meeting will be held in San Jose, CA. from Sunday October 8th to Wednesday October 11th. Metro will receive the transit agency of the year award as the best public transportation authority in the country on Tuesday October 10th.

America's Best Award Media Event - Thursday October 12th **

Metro has scheduled a media event on at 10 a.m. on Thursday October 12th at Metro Bus Division 1 located at to celebrate Metro's winning the transit agency of the year award.

Night of Stars - Friday October 20th

This annual event honors Metro's best operators and mechanics and will be held starting at 6:30 p.m. on Friday October 20 at the Marina del Rey Marriott located at 4100 Admiralty Way in Marina del Rey.

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension RAC Ad-Hoc Committee – Thursday October 26th

The October meeting of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Review Advisory Committee (RAC) Ad-Hoc Subcommittee is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday October 26 at the Boyle Heights Senior Citizen Center located at 2839 E. 3rd Street in Los Angeles (tentative location).

Mobility 21 Annual Summit – Monday October 30th

The 2006 Mobility 21 Summit is scheduled for Monday October 30 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sheraton Universal Hotel located at 333 Universal Hollywood Drive in Universal City. U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer has confirmed as the keynote speaker.

San Fernando Road Bike Path Event – Thursday November 2nd **

The City of L.A (LADOT) is holding a dedication ceremony for Phase 1 of the San Fernando Road Bike Path at 10 a.m. on Thursday November 2 at the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station. This is the first phase of a three phase bike path project located parallel to San Fernando Road and Metrolink's commuter rail line located within the Metro right of way between Roxford Street and Hubbard Street in the City of Los Angeles.

California Transit Association Annual Fall Conference & Exposition – Tuesday

November 7 to Thursday November 9th

The California Transit Association's 41st Annual Fall Conference & Exposition will be held from Tuesday November 7 to Thursday November 9 at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach & Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center.

FTA Quarterly Review – Wednesday November 29th **

The FTA New Starts Projects Quarterly Review meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 29, 2006 at 10 a.m. in the Metro Gateway Conference Room.

** Tentative

Metro.net Home | Press Room | Projects & Programs | Meeting Agendas | Riding Metro | Metro Library

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority 1 Gateway Plaza Los Angeles, California 90012-2952 Phone: 213-922-6888 Fax: 213-922-7447