



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

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**CEO Roger Snoble**



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## Los Angeles City Transportation Committee Votes to Suspend Wilshire Bus Lane

Earlier today, the Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee approved a motion by Councilmember Bill Rosendahl to suspend the remaining portions of the Wilshire Boulevard bus lane in West Los Angeles to allow for peak period parking eastbound in the morning and westbound in the afternoon. Previous Council action suspended the bus lane in the two block segment between Barrington and Federal Avenues with the condition that no further portions would be removed, peak period parking would not be reinstated, and the segment would be automatically restored when the bus lane extension to the VA property went into effect. Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) staff testified that installation of the bus lane, which was accomplished by removing peak period parking, did initially improve travel flow. They further testified that removal of the bus lane without a reinstatement of parking would lead to greater travel improvements.

David Mieger, Metro's Westside Area Team Director, provided testimony on the recent agreements between Metro and the County of Los Angeles to design and engineer improvements which would allow the bus lane to be extended across the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) property from Federal Avenue to the 405 Freeway. Metro and LADOT staff also discussed efforts to open a bus lane segment on Wilshire between Doheny Drive and Fairfax Avenue. Councilmember Wendy Greuel requested for a report from LADOT, before this item is heard by the full Council, on the issues surrounding removal of the bus lane, the criteria for its reinstatement, and information from Metro regarding

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efforts to extend the bus lane in other areas.

Councilmember Tom La Bonge also registered his disappointment with Metro's failure to address the resurfacing issues on Wilshire by Metro's buses. This matter will be discussed further at a scheduled meeting with staff from Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's office, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky's office, Los Angeles City Council, Metro and LADOT.

### **Mission Meridian Village Parking Garage Opens**

Last Friday (October 20<sup>th</sup>), Director Fasana joined South Pasadena Councilman Mike Ten, Creative Housing Association President Michael Dieden, South Pasadena City Manager Philip Putnam, former California Transportation Commissioner Allen Lawrence and Metro's Director of Regional Transportation Planning & Development Diego Cardoso for the opening of the Mission Meridian Village parking garage. Adjacent to the Metro Gold Line's Mission Station, the 122-space public garage for Gold Line commuters is a public-private partnership between Metro, Caltrans and Creative Housing Associates. Mission Meridian Village was selected by the Urban Land Institute as one of the finest urban design transit-oriented developments in the United States. The project is also the recipient of the prestigious 2006 Charter Award from the Congress on New Urbanism, a 2006 Tranny Award from Caltrans, and four 2006 Golden Nugget Awards from the Pacific Coast Builders Conference.



### **2007 Call for Projects**

Metro will release the Draft 2007 Call for Projects Application Package this Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> to City Managers, Councils of Governments (GOGs), Public Works Directors, Municipal Operators, Transportation Directors, and a various other interested parties throughout Los Angeles County.

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The [2007 Call for Projects “Applicant Workshop”](#) has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> to assist these entities and other eligible sponsors in preparing their Call for Projects applications. The purpose of this workshop is to provide information regarding the eligibility of transportation projects and programs, new Call for Projects program requirements, the evaluation criteria and schedule. In addition, six subregional workshops will be held throughout the month of November, with more that may be scheduled upon request.

The Draft 2007 Call for Projects Application is scheduled to be reviewed by the Planning and Programming Committee on November 15<sup>th</sup>, with Board action to follow on December 7<sup>th</sup>. As in past Calls, once the Board has approved the Application Package, we will distribute, if necessary, a supplemental package in mid-December to notify interested parties of any additional program changes. Applications are due to Metro from project sponsors on Friday January 26, 2007.

### **Media Inquiries Regarding Consent Decree Ruling**

Media Relations distributed a statement from [Board Chair Gloria Molina](#) regarding Judge Hatter’s ruling today allowing the Consent Decree to expire on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Staff received a number of media inquires regarding the ruling and stories are expected to run tomorrow in area newspapers.

### **November Service Sector Governance Council Meetings**

Media Relations issued a [news release](#) this morning announcing the upcoming November Sector Governance Council Meetings. The release notes the time and location of each meeting and encourages the public to attend offer input on Metro Bus service in their communities.

### **Of Note**

On this day in 2001, the Board unanimously voted to rename Metro’s Transportation Library as the ‘Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library.’ This was an effort to recognize the distinguished thirteen-year career of Dorothy Gray who built the library into the fourth largest transportation library collection in the United States (behind those at the University of California, Berkeley, Northwestern University and the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Volpe Center) bringing it national and international respect as an important research repository. Originally started by the Los Angeles Railway in 1920, the library has served employees, students and the general public continuously since 1971.

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