

# **Daily Brief**

Thursday November 30, 2006 20061130-0

**CEO Roger Snoble** 



### In this issue:

- Vehicles Collide and Crash Into Wilshire Customer Center
- More than 75 Bus Operator Referrals Submitted by Metro Employees
- Fast Company Magazine to Feature the Work of Metro Creative Services
- Of Note

## Vehicles Collide and Crash Into Wilshire Customer Center

On Tuesday of this week, two cars collided at the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue. The vehicles then crashed into the Wilshire Customer Center. The collision, which involved a van and another vehicle, reportedly occurred at 5:45 a.m. before any staff had arrived for work.

The accident occurred almost four years after a similar incident on December 8, 2002, when an out-of-control car smashed into another and sent it spinning into the center's front door. Following that accident, bollards were installed to minimize potential damages. It was a fortuitous action since without the bollards the vehicles could have ended up in the lobby.

Metro's Wilshire Customer Center serves 170,000 patrons a year and houses Metro's Lost and Found operation.



## More than 75 Bus Operator Referrals Submitted by Metro Employees

Metro employees have submitted more than 75 job candidate leads in Metro's Bus Operator Referral Program. Each stands a good chance at receiving \$300 each for their effort. Human Resources (HR) launched the Bus Operator Referral Program in September as a means to help fill almost 300 bus operator vacancies. The program is currently offering \$300 to any full- or part-time employee who recruits a successful external bus operator candidate.

HR is now screening the bus operator applicants recruited by employees and scheduling written testing and interview dates. To assist employees in the recruiting effort, HR has designed a new wallet-size card that includes all the information needed to help a job prospect determine whether he or she meets the minimum bus operator requirements. The card is available to employees at the HR Employment Office on the Plaza level and also will be available next week from transportation and maintenance managers at the bus and rail divisions and at the Regional Rebuild Center.

## Fast Company Magazine to Feature the Work of Metro Creative Services

Recently, *Fast Company*, the highly regarded national magazine of "ideas, tools, profiles, and evaluations on the ways that business works," interviewed Creative Services department staff (Metro Art and the Metro Design Studio) for an article on how Metro improves the customer experience and attracts transit ridership through quality art and design. The article, which is expected to run in the magazine's February or March 2007 issue, will include professionally photographed examples of art projects displayed throughout the transit system including the newly-installed artwork at the Wilshire Customer Center. Various paint schemes and our new buses' artist designed bus seat fabric will also be

highlighted.

#### Of Note

On this date in 1925, Los Angeles' first section of underground electric railway opened with much fanfare (including a Chamber of Commerce luncheon for 1,100 people at the Biltmore Hotel) and the *Los Angeles Times* declared it "the beginning of a new era in transportation" for the city.

The privately owned Pacific Electric Railroad started work on the one-mile tunnel in May 1924, The Times reported. The new route connected Hollywood and Glendale with downtown Los Angeles.

"Scenes in the underground chambers of the terminal at Hill Street prior to the starting of the first train at about 2 o'clock ... rivaled those of the famous 'shuttle' between Times Square and the Grand Central in New York," the newspaper said. "Thousands gathered in the street and on the sidewalks outside the terminal long before the departure of the train which was waiting for the delegation of dignitaries who had attended the luncheon."

The Pacific Electric Band serenaded those first riders.



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