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Metro Orange Line Project Manager Roger Dames, foreground, heads a multi-talented construction team that includes Metro employees and employees of the construction management consultant, Carter & Burgess. [See below for names](#)



Photo by Gary Leonard

Metro Orange Line Represents Many LA County Firsts

By DAVE SOTERO

(Oct. 28, 2005) The Metro Orange Line, which opens to the public this weekend, represents many firsts for Los Angeles County.

It is the region's first right-of-way built exclusively for buses. It is the San Fernando Valley's first major transit service since the extension of the Metro Red Line into Universal City and North Hollywood in 2000.

It is also the first time that new custom-designed, high-tech Metro Liner buses will be placed into service within the county.

The 60-foot, 57-passenger Metro Liners were built from the ground up with such amenities as multiple-entry doors for easier boarding and alighting, a roomy interior, full accessibility and automated station announcement system.

Artistically designed stations also have such amenities as canopies, ticket vending machines, 24-hour video surveillance with passenger assistance telephones, lighting, seating, public address system and public telephones.

The transitway incorporates a host of other innovative construction and design features, from advanced traffic light signal priority system to five park & ride lots with more than 3,200 free parking spaces, bicycle and pedestrian paths.

Metro has also planted extensive landscaping along the transitway, including more than 800,000 plants, 5,000 trees and six landscape art areas.

Operating hours

The 14-mile line has 13 stations and will operate buses every five to six minutes during peak weekday morning and afternoon rush hours.

Buses will then operate every 10-15 minutes during the day and every 20 minutes during the late night and early morning hours. On weekends, buses will operate about every 10-20 minutes.

The hours of operation will be from 4 a.m. to 1 a.m. seven days a week. Schedules are closely coordinated with Metro Red Line operating hours.

Major destinations available along the line include Valley College, Van Nuys Civic Center, Woodley Lake Golf Course, the Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area, Lake Balboa Park, and Pierce College.

The western end of the line serves Warner Center, the third-largest employment center in Los Angeles County. Dining and shopping destinations at Warner Center Station include the Westfield Promenade and Westfield Topanga.

Pictured here with Roger Dames are Donna Garcia, Rick Carlson, Sal Hernandez, Charles Fitzsimmons, Mark Van Gessel, Garry Warren, William R. Browly, Ghulam M. Shaikh, Robert Hupp, Bonnie Verdin, Kathleen Sanchez, Connie Levinson, Ned Racine, Leonid Bukhin, Essan Aly, Erik Qvale, Duncan Lestina, Stephen Nix, Rosario Zertuche, Jerry Palmer, Alberto Alva, James J. Cohen, Robert P. Sechler, Steve Moini. Not pictured are Devon Cichoski, Ivan Page, Don Costa Seawell, Peter Jung, Mana Katkaphan, Sam Sampat, Duncan Robb, Donna Lafont, Michael Cummings, Hitesh Patel, Scott McConnell, Cris Liban, Quinton Sumabat, Lynn Harmon and Peggie Blackiston.

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