



NEWS

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TAKING A NEW APPROACH TO STATION DESIGN: ARTISTS, ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS WORK TOGETHER ON LOS ANGELES' METRO GREEN LINE

Scheduled to open this summer, Los Angeles' newest rail line, the Metro Green Line, features stations with an extraordinary blend of art, architecture and engineering. The result is landmark transit facilities that are both functional and beautiful.

"The inclusion of art in our system has been tremendously well received by our customers," said Franklin White, MTA's chief executive officer. "We, and all of Los Angeles, are proud of these artists. Their works are an investment which will enhance our transit system for generations to come."

The Marine Avenue/Redondo Beach Boulevard Station is the closest station to the beach and is located in the heart of Los Angeles' aerospace industry. Passengers at this station will await trains under a wave-shaped blue glass canopy designed by artist Carl Cheng with PB/DMJM Engineering and Escudero-Fribourg Architects. Two 30-foot-tall satellite sculptures will be installed next month atop the station's 70-foot elevator towers. Numerous other art elements including the landscaping, video monitors, and interactive fiberoptics refer to the coastal and aerospace motifs.

Artist designs at MTA's rail stations establish a cultural connection between the transit system and the communities that surround them. While more than 24 art projects have been installed in the Metro system, the Metro Green Line projects are the first to involve artists since the very early stages of station design.

"In Los Angeles, artists have joined what has traditionally been an engineering dominated industry," said Maya Emsden, Director of the MTA's Art Program. "The Metro Green Line represents our first realized examples of artists collaborating with

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engineers and architects from the outset. The results are exciting and represent a significant milestone in the worlds of both art and engineering."

Five of the stations were designed by artist/architect/engineer teams; nine were designed by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) with artists providing an extensive array of finishing elements.

The Metro Green Line is a 20-mile east-west rail line that will serve 18 cities and communities within Los Angeles County. Service is scheduled to begin this summer. The line is part of the Metro rail system under construction in Los Angeles County. The Green Line will bring the number of operating Metro Rail miles to 46, and the number of stations to 41.

The Green Line connects to the MTA's Blue Line, which travels from Los Angeles to Long Beach, at the Imperial/Wilmington Station. The Blue Line connects to the Red Line subway in downtown Los Angeles.

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Note to Editors: A special Green Line preview will be held in June for the art press. Please call Maya Emsden (213) 244-6829 for more details.