



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHATSWORTH METROLINK STATION CHILD CARE CENTER OPENS; RIBBON CUTTING, 11 A.M., SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1996

The new Chatsworth Metrolink Station will offer child care services as part of an effort to encourage commuting parents to choose mass transit.

Ribbon-cutting for the Transit Tots West Child Care Center and the Station Depot will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 20. Featured speakers include MTA Board Chairman Larry Zarian and Los Angeles City Councilman Hal Bernson. Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, who are former residents of Chatsworth and made many of their classic movies in the area, will make guest appearances.

The opening ceremony is part of a community festival that starts immediately after the ribbon cutting, featuring children's rides, music, and food from local restaurants, to celebrate the new facility.

The Child Care Center and depot is a joint venture of the MTA and the City of Los Angeles. The Chatsworth Center, located between Lassen St. and Devonshire St., at 10040 Old Depot Plaza Road, is part of a 14-acre station site that is planned for future development, to include a park, offices, shops, theatres, and apartment housing.

The Center has capacity for 90 children and is open to the public for infant and pre-school care, but priority will be given first to mass transit users, and secondly to parents who car pool.

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The operator of the facility is Children's Discovery Centers of America, Inc., the fourth largest child care provider, with more than 200 child care centers nationwide. The Child Care Center, which occupies 5,500 square feet at the depot, includes three classrooms and an outdoor play area.

"Child care is a key factor when considering quality of life in the work place for everyone," said Larry Zarian. "Studies indicate parents add three to four miles each way to their daily commute to work when they are using child care. This project, more than five years in the planning, helps those parents who have not been able to use mass transit or car pool, because they have to transport their children to and from day care."

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