



NEWS

June 13, 1997

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MTA MEDIA RELATIONS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

No barking please

GUIDE DOG INSTRUCTORS TO TEACH THEIR 'STUDENTS' ABOUT TRAIN ETIQUETTE ABOARD METRO BLUE LINE

WHAT: Approximately 10 guide dogs-in-training, a mix of German Shepherds, Labrador and Golden Retrievers ranging in age from 6 to 16 months old, including puppies, will be taught by 20 representatives of the South Bay Guide Dog Raisers Club, a delegation comprised of both adults and children, on how use the train for the first time. Following two years of training, the canines are then assigned to sight-impaired clients who use transit on a daily basis. The Metro Blue Line outing, paid for by the MTA, is intended to expose the green and white jacket clad dogs to real-life situations that can be encountered while using mass transit and to become familiar with the surroundings. MTA officials will greet the human being/canine entourage and explain the ins-and-outs of train travel to their captive audience. Guests also will receive MTA goodie bags.

WHEN: **Saturday, June 14, 1997**
10:30 a.m.

WHERE: **Long Beach Blue Line Information Kiosk**
(near Transit Mall)
between Pine Street and Long Beach Boulevard
at 1st Street at the Promenade
(trainers and dogs will board train at approximately 11 a.m.)

WHO: Daphne Easton, Leader, South Bay Guide Dog Raisers
Nyack, yellow Lab, Arienne, black Lab, Newman, Golden Retriever,
plus many of their friends
Andres Parvenu, MTA Public Affairs Officer

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