



August 12, 1998

MEDIA ADVISORY/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

WHAT: MTA finishes the use of explosives and completes excavation of deep underground tunnel facilities for the Metro Red Line subway extension to San Fernando Valley. Red Line construction staff will provide a photo opportunity to the news media showing a large room the size of a football field that was hollowed out 800 feet beneath Runyon Canyon Park and will eventually be used to house track level rooms for the subway project. For the past eight months, construction workers have been using small amounts of explosives to create several cross passages and track level rooms for the subway project. The use of the explosives went virtually unnoticed by the surrounding community, due to the development of a program to minimize the impacts. The largest room measures approximately 310 feet long, 34 feet wide and 26 feet high. Electronic and print photographers will be allowed into the tunnel to photograph that portion of the project.

WHEN: *Friday, August 14, 1998*
9:30 a.m.

WHERE: Camera crews may enter the Church of Christ Scientist church parking area at 7101 Hollywood Boulevard just west of La Brea in Hollywood. A short media briefing and safety training will occur before start of tunnel tour.

EDITORS NOTE: (Due to the complexity of tunneling, all media must be safety trained for the photo tour. In addition, camera crews will have to walk approximately 40 minutes into the tunnel to reach the designated site. All persons entering the tunnel must wear steel toed shoes or rubber boots and long pants. Hard hats and boots will be provided. Space may be limited, depending on the number of media crews attending. Total time commitment is approximately 2 hours.)

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