

AGENDA ITEM 9

June 02, 2004

TO: SAN FERNANDO VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

FROM: DAVID ARMIJO
GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: Orange Line Construction Project Status Report

STATUS REPORT

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Board approved the \$329.5 million Orange Line Construction Project. Actual construction on this project began in April 2003. The Orange Line will be an East-West San Fernando Valley dedicated Rapidway connecting MTA's North Hollywood Metro Rail Station and Warner Center. The Orange Line is approximately fourteen miles long and will have thirteen stations that the Metro Bus system will feed into. The construction project is progressing along the entire Line including bridge construction, grading, signal light and power pole relocations and actual pavement installed from North Hollywood Station to Coldwater Canyon.

The construction project will include signaled crossings at thirty-five intersections along the route, thirteen stations that will enable connections with various bus routes within the Metro Bus system, five park & rides with 3,000 parking stalls, as well as a bikeway and pedestrian path that will parallels the Rapidway. During the construction period, MTA staff will be working closely with the contractor and Los Angeles City officials conducting community outreach programs to effectively communicate street closures and minimize closure periods that would impact traffic flow. Although there have been some delays in the project time line, every effort is being taken to expedite the project to ensure that the target date of August 2005 is met.

Extensive landscaping, with over 800K plants and 5K trees, will provide a green belt along the route. This planned landscaping will not only add to existing plants and trees along the route but will also clearly enhance the overall appearance of the corridor.

After an extensive review of a host of art proposals, the MTA has contracted with various artists throughout the community to provide artwork for each of the thirteen stations. A similar art program was favorably received along the recently opened Gold Line. Each station will also include lighting, seating, security cameras, public telephones, bicycle racks and ticket vending machines.

The opening target date for the Orange Line is August 2005. Approximately 85,000 service hours will be supported by eighteen, 60' articulated, peak hour buses. They will operate every seven to ten minutes, during peak hours, from 5:00 am to 12:00 midnight. Initial ridership on the Orange Line is anticipated to be approximately 10,000 boarding per weekday.

Regular reports will be submitted to the San Fernando Valley Governance Council as the Orange Line project progresses.

Prepared by John Roberts,