



Metro

Daily Brief

Wednesday, August 17, 2005

20050817-0

CEO Roger Snoble

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Media Spotlights Metro Ridership Gains

NBC Nightly News interviewed me about the spike in Metro ridership in the wake of rising gas prices (14% for rail and 9% for buses). The crew shot footage of commuters boarding the subway at Union Station. It will air tonight or tomorrow night as part of a series on gas prices. This episode will focus on alternatives including public transportation.

KNBC-TV, KCET "Life and Times" and KNX Radio interviewed Media Relations staff about positive gains in ridership for Metro in the wake of rising gas prices. Staff also emphasized that there is better service to keep customers even after gas prices level off. Staff noted that for the price of a gallon of gas, people can buy a \$3 Metro Day pass for unlimited rides on the Metro system.

The Long Beach Business Journal inquired about ridership gains but also asked for specific stats on Metro Blue Line boardings in downtown Long Beach for a story about how joint development around Metro stations there is helping to spur ridership.

Metro Liner Promoted

A KNBC-TV reporter today rode the Metro Liner during a test run for a story that may air tonight marking another milestone for the soon-to-open Metro Orange Line.

Metro Orange Line

Media Relations worked with the Daily News today on a story on the testing schedule for the Metro Orange Line. Staff detailed the agency's efforts to ensure the public interacts safely with buses by not trespassing on Rapidway properties. 15,000 notices are being distributed to residents along the entire length of the Rapidway, and posters are planned for street intersections. The Daily News is expected to run a story tomorrow.

Hope for Traffic Relief

I will be taping an interview tonight on Metro's efforts to reduce traffic for the KCBS-TV public affairs show "Studio 2" that will air Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. before "Sixty Minutes."

Metro Promoted School Pool

Metro today issued a press release encouraging parents to join Metro sponsored school pools to share the task of transporting students to school and reduce traffic. Nearly 300 students at 10 schools are involved in the program now in its second year.

KFI and KNX Radio interviewed Metro staff on Metro's School Pool Program. The program seeks more public, private and charter schools to participate, and encourages parents to get involved through their PTA. Tele Azteca Channel 54 is also interested in doing a story on the program.

Tunnel Studies

The Los Angeles Times will interview Metro planning staff about various studies of tunnels including one that would connect Glendale and La Canada and the Antelope Valley as well as the I-710 tunnel feasibility study under South Pasadena. An article may run this weekend or next week.

Fair Share?

The Los Angeles Times is interviewing capital planning staff about recent earmarks for Los Angeles County in the new federal multi-year transportation-funding bill and will examine whether Los Angeles County and California are getting their fair share of federal funding. An article may be published within the next week.

Los Angeles City Council Meeting

The Los Angeles City Council today approved the Councilmember Greuel-Smith-Villaraigosa motion and staff report from three LA City departments (Chief

Legislative Analyst, Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of Contract Services) proposing measures to address road construction work on major City thoroughfares during weekday peak hours.

Councilmember Greuel stated that a draft ordinance will come to the Council within 30 days that will allow for greater enforcement capability. Wayne Tanda, General Manager of the Department of Transportation, mentioned that there are some instances where peak hour construction will continue for major projects, for example, the Orange Line and the Santa Monica Blvd. Transit Parkway projects, so that the overall construction time for the project is minimized.

Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 17

Transportation Concepts, Inc. made 100% on-time rollout this morning. There were ten drivers and four Teamsters representatives walking the picket lines today. This is the largest number of picketers seen during morning rollout since the work stoppage began. Sheriff support continues and there have been no incidents.

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