



Metro

Daily Brief

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CEO Roger Snoble

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Consent Decree

The Special Master has set a hearing for Monday, November 7, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. and hopes to conclude before noon. The hearing will be held in Courtroom 10 located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles. The Special Master has asked both parties to work together in preparing the agenda for the day.

Metro School Safety Presentations

The Daily News attended a Metro Orange Line safety presentation conducted by Community Relations at Thoreau High School in Woodland Hills this morning. Metro is working with to more than 100 Valley schools within a mile and a half radius of the Metro Orange Line to educate students, teachers and staff about safety precautions for the line. The story is expected to run in the next couple of days.

Religious Accommodations Lawsuit Settlement

The Associated Press, the Los Angeles Times, City News Service and the Los Angeles Daily Journal inquired today regarding the settlement of a lawsuit brought on by a former Metro Bus Operator over religious accommodations, charging that the agency refused to accommodate his requests not to work certain days and hours because of his religion. Metro responded to the reporters by indicating that we are pleased that the lawsuit has been dropped and as part of the settlement, have agreed to make some minor changes in our process to deal with religious accommodations without significantly impacting our bus operator's seniority system. Stories may appear in newspapers tomorrow.

Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority Board Meeting

The Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority Board met today and authorized the CEO to negotiate and execute a contract for general counsel services with Nossaman Guthner Knox Elliott LLP. Also approved was a DBE program and Contract Compliance Manual, a 20% DBE goal for negotiated design-build contracts, staff salary structure and employee benefits plan. The Board, also, authorized the CEO to negotiate and execute a five-year lease for office space at 707 Wilshire Blvd.

Assembly Member Oropeza Hold Goods Movement Hearing at Metro

Assembly Member and Transportation Committee Chair, Jenny Oropeza conducted a hearing today, Wednesday, October 12, 2005, at Metro Headquarters. The hearing was titled "The Human Side of Goods Movement: Responding to the Health Effects." Over fifteen speakers testified about the health effects of goods movement in Los Angeles. Several researchers discussed their findings relating to increases in asthma and other major illnesses attributed to declining air quality in the Los Angeles region. Several experts from the maritime communities discussed efforts by the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles to develop "green" port policies. During the hearing, Assembly Member Oropeza mentioned that she will introduce a bond measure in next year's legislative session that would finance air quality programs. This measure may be included in Senate President Pro-Tem Don Perata's bond proposal (SB 1024).

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