



Metro

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CEO Roger Snoble



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Waxman Introduces Subway Tunneling Legislation

On the first day of the 110th Congress, Representative Henry Waxman introduced legislation to repeal the federal prohibition on subway tunneling along the Wilshire Corridor. The legislation (H.R. 238) is identical to last year's bill (H.R. 4653), which passed the House but was held up in the Senate for reasons unrelated to the substance of the bill. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has informed Metro's federal advocates that the committee intends to mark up the legislation in February and move the bill through the House as quickly as possible. Metro's lobbying team will be coordinating closely with Representative Waxman and the Transportation Committee in the weeks ahead and will keep you apprised of new developments.

Metro Honored with Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada recently announced that Metro has received the group's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our FY07 Budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by Metro. It reflects the commitment of the Board and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the award, the agency had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well Metro's budget serves as: 1) a policy document; 2) a financial plan; 3) an operations guide; and 4) a communications

device. Although budget documents must be rated “proficient” in all categories to receive the award, Metro received “outstanding” ratings in nearly every category. This marks the 13th year that Metro has received the award.

The GFOA’s Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.

New Multicultural Pocket Guides

To enhance Metro’s outreach to ethnic communities throughout the region, Communications has recently developed a series of Pocket Guides in ten different languages. These guides are small enough to fit in a shirt-pocket or wallet, and provide basic information on Metro bus and rail service, fares, and transit safety. Languages include Armenian, Cambodian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog, Russian, Spanish, Thai and Vietnamese. The guides will be distributed starting this month at ethnic festivals and community events, Metro’s Customer Centers and through a partnership with LA, Inc. - The Los Angeles Convention and Visitor’s Bureau

Wilshire Customer Center’s Lost and Found Department

Metro Media Relations received an inquiry from the *Daily News* about the Lost and Found Department at the Wilshire Customer Center. A phone interview was conducted with Media staff and the Director for Customer Services and Programs regarding the types of items that are left on Metro buses and trains. The story is expected to run on Tuesday, January 9th.

Of Note

Next week, I will be participating in a pre-meet for Los Angeles City Councilman Tom Labonge’s upcoming San Fernando Valley Transportation Summit and a briefing for the Assembly Transportation Committee’s new Chairman, Assemblyman Pedro Nava. I will also be attending the Wilshire Metro Customer Center Grand Re-Opening, the Expo Board Meeting and the Regionwide CEO Meeting.

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