



Metro

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Metro Supports 2016 Olympic Bid

Today I sent a letter to the Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games (SCCOG). This is the latest information request to which we have responded in support of the bid to bring the 2016 Olympic Games to Los Angeles. At their request, we have provided the following information over the last several months:

- Current and planned freeway infrastructure in Los Angeles County and for selected freeways in Orange County;
- Current and planned passenger rail infrastructure, including Metrolink;
- Information about the current and planned fleet for Metro Bus, Metro Rail, Metrolink, and the bus fleets of other operators;
- System maps;
- Potential for Olympic sponsors to advertise on Metro property; and
- Today's letter which affirms that the planned improvements in LA County are being implemented as a part of the normal course of addressing the County's transportation needs, are not specifically planned for the Olympic Games, and have the approval of the Board of Directors.

This assistance to the SCCOG has been coordinated by Metro staff who previously worked for the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee in the planning and execution of the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, and with experience in Metro's work in support of the transportation needs of the 2000 Democratic National Convention. This has required coordination and cooperation from various departments within Metro, as well as with various sister

agencies including Caltrans, Metrolink, and other transit operators.

This information will be compiled into the full bid package that is being submitted to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) next week. Officials at SCCOG have informed us that this submittal is a first step. There will be subsequent opportunities to provide additional and more in-depth information to the USOC after they review the bid packages. The USOC is expected to make a decision later this year between Los Angeles and Chicago to be the American bidder for the 2016 Games.

Multi-Agency Orange Line Safety Task Force Update

The work of the Multi-Agency Orange Line Safety Task Force, composed of LADOT, LAPD, LASD and Metro, has recently come to a close. Over the past year, the task force has focused on three elements to improve safety and reduce accidents along the Metro Orange Line corridor: 1) education; 2) engineering; and 3) enforcement. To date, all of the Task Force's recommendations have been implemented with the last major component being the installation of photo enforcement cameras at twelve critical intersections.

As of last week, over 8,000 citations have been issued to motorists for violations at the camera-equipped intersections. Metro receives 30% of each citation, or \$81 (based on the minimum fine of \$271 per citation). It is expected that the citation trend decreases over time as our continuing public education program reaches more members of the public traveling in and around the Metro Orange Line.

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension RAC Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Update

This past December, the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension (MGLEE) Review Advisory Committee's (RAC) Ad Hoc Subcommittee formally recommended a re-interment location for remains unearthed during the early phases of the MGLEE project.

This recommendation was formally issued to the RAC last night for their consideration. The recommendation included two separate actions:

- 1) For Metro to begin exclusive negotiations with the owners of Evergreen Cemetery for the space required to re-inter all of the human skeletal remains and artifacts in individual plots adjacent to the Historic Chinese Shrine. The space negotiated should also consider enough space to accommodate a memorial; and
 - 2) That Metro provide funding for the replication of select artifacts as designated by the Ad-Hoc Sub Committee after lengthy public comment
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on the issue. Three sets should be replicated for distribution to the Chinese Historical Society of Southern CA, Los Angeles Consolidated Benevolent Association and for incorporation of one set into one of the Boyle Heights stations.

The RAC heard public comment on the motion before adopting it unanimously. The recommendation will shortly be forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Later this month, the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee will also begin the design for a memorial and plans for a re-interment ceremony. It is anticipated that the re-interment may occur during the first quarter of this year.

Hollywood/Vine Groundbreaking Rescheduled

This groundbreaking for construction of the Hollywood/Vine joint development, which was originally scheduled for Tuesday, January 23rd at 3:00 p.m. has been rescheduled to Monday, February 12th at 11:00 a.m. The event will be held at the Hollywood/Vine Metro Red Line Station (in the parking lot behind the station).

The site's developer, Legacy Partners, and others will join Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and a host of city, agency and community officials to break ground at the world-famous Hollywood and Vine intersection to build one of the largest, most ambitious mixed-use, transit-oriented development projects in Los Angeles. The \$500 million development project will include a 300-room W Hotel, 143 W Residences, 375 luxury apartments (including 79 affordable units), approximately 61,000 square feet of retail space and transit plaza improvements at the Hollywood/Vine Metro Red Line Station in Hollywood. Construction is expected to take approximately 24 months with completion targeted for the first quarter 2009.

The developers are also planning an after-event party at the W Sales Center from 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm.

Access Service (ASI) Paratransit Services

A reporter with the *Los Angeles Times'* Orange County edition is preparing a story on the paratransit services being provided by Access Service (ASI). Earlier today, Metro staff spoke to the reporter regarding similar paratransit services that are provided by Metro. The reporter was given facts and figures on the nature of services provided by Access Services per their contract with Metro. Metro's current FY 07 budget for the service is \$87 million. The contract is with Access Service who subcontracts portions to various other providers covering Los Angeles County including Global Paratransit, San Gabriel Transit, MV Transit and Southland Transit. On-time performance for these services was rated at

90% in FY 06; with 4.22 complaints per 1000 trips. A story is expected to run sometime in the near future.

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