



Metro

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CEO Roger Snoble



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Bush Administration Taps Veteran Senate Staffer for Number Two FTA Post

Sherry Little, a senior professional staff member with the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, has just been appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as Deputy Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). She fills a vacancy left by the departure of former Deputy Administrator Sandy Bushue, who recently accepted a new position with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Known as one of Capitol Hill's premiere policy experts on transit issues, Ms. Little is a seasoned veteran with many years' experience in working closely with transit properties, including Metro. In the spring of 2005, she and other senior committee staff members visited Metro and toured our rail and bus system. I first met Sherry during my tenure at DART and she has always demonstrated a keen understanding of the challenges and needs facing the transit community. Metro, and the entire transit industry, is fortunate to have an individual of her caliber holding the number two position at the FTA.

Hollywood/Vine Joint Development Groundbreaking

Earlier today, Board Chair Gloria Molina, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Supervisors Zev Yaroslavsky and Yvonne Burke, Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti, Director David Fleming and I attended the Hollywood/Vine Joint Development Groundbreaking. The site's developers, Gatehouse Capital, EVP Legacy Partners, the CRA/LA, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, television host Jimmy Kimmel and Hollywood Honorary Mayor Johnny Grant were also on hand to mark the beginning of construction on the

\$600 million transit-oriented development. The development, billed as the largest privately financed real estate project in California history, will include a 305-room W Hollywood Hotel, 143 W Residences, 375 luxury apartments (including 78 affordable units), more than 50,000 square feet of retail and transit plaza improvements at the Hollywood/Vine Metro Red Line Station. Metro owns most of the property and will receive ground lease rents when the project is completed in mid-2009. The development is seen as a major new revitalization project for the City of Hollywood. Numerous media attended today's event, including most major network television stations, radio and print publications. Stories are expected to run tonight and throughout this week.

South Bay Sector Metro Line 442

The *Daily Breeze* newspaper inquired today regarding proposed service modifications in the South Bay. South Bay Service Sector General Manager, Dana Coffey, explained that the sector continues to look for better alternatives and improved service reliability when making recommendations for service changes. The reporter is focusing on Metro Line 442 in the South Bay proposed for cancellation in June. Staff noted that the line currently only operates in the morning and evening peak periods, with very low ridership. Alternatives include Metro Line 315 as well as Metro Hawthorne Rapid Line 740. In addition, the reporter was told that a new Rapid Express Line (740) is scheduled to begin operations in June to offer even faster, more reliable service as an alternative to Line 442.

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