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Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee Supports Shuttle Service to Dodger Stadium

Today, the Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee approved the LA Department of Transportation's recommendation to pay \$70,000 for shuttle service from Union Station to Dodger Stadium. The service will run from July 25, 2008 through the end of the 2008 baseball season. Councilmember Bill Rosendahl expressed concern about using the City's limited funding resources to pay for the service and felt that it would be more appropriate if the Dodgers absorbed the costs given that they are a for-profit organization. However, the Councilmember agreed to support the proposal if it is only for the 2008 season and if the Dodgers commit to finding other funding sources to pay for the service beyond this year. He also said that this service is really our responsibility and he would like us to start up service to Dodger Stadium as we have done in the past. Dodgers representative, Howard Sunkin, said that they are working to resolve some of the restrictions placed on us to provide this service. Mr. Sunkin also discussed potential revenue sources from advertising. The item will be considered by the entire Council on Friday, June 27, 2008.

KPCC Air Talk Program Focuses on Subway Extension, Sales Tax

Earlier today, KPCC Radio devoted the first hour of the "Air Talk" program to a discussion on the proposed Subway to the Sea and the half-cent sales tax. Panelists

for the show were Assemblyman Mike Feuer (D-Los Angeles), Beverly Hills Councilmember & Westside Cities Council of Governments Chair, Linda Briskman, Supervisor Antonovich's Deputy Michael Cano and Deputy Executive Officer for Countywide Planning and Development and project manager for the Westside Extension Transit Corridor, David Mieger.

Topics discussed included the current status and preliminary findings of the Westside Extension Alternatives Analysis Study, congestion on the Westside including the number of people commuting to the area daily, construction issues, alternatives for funding this and other projects throughout the County and upcoming Board action on the Long Range Transportation Plan and sales tax proposal. The program is available on-line at: <http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/>

Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library & Archive Working with the National Transportation Library, Northwestern University, and U.C. Berkeley's Institute of Transportation Studies to Provide Technical Assistance to the University of Florida

The University of Florida's Transportation Technology Transfer Center will be incorporating our library's catalog collection along with those of the National Transportation Library, Northwestern University's Transportation Library, and the U.C. Berkeley Institute of Transportation Studies Library into a single research resource for training and technical assistance to the State of Florida's transportation and public works professionals. This was made possible through electronic resource sharing standards that our library adopted in advance of nearly all other transportation libraries. We will be providing the major transit research element of their new online collection.

Metro Rapid Media Event

This morning, Mayor Villaraigosa, Director Fleming and I gathered for a press event to announce the implementation of six new Metro Rapid Bus lines that will start operation on Monday, June 30, 2008. The event was held at the North Hollywood Metro Red Line Station featuring new Metro Rapid Line 724 that will operate from the station to the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station along Lankershim Boulevard. With the implementation of these six new Rapid lines, we will have a total of 26 Rapid Lines in service, the largest in the country.

Numerous media outlets attended the event including Channel 7, 11, 18, 34, 35, KNX radio, KFI radio, the Chinese Daily News, Asian Pacific, La Opinion, the LA Times and the LA Weekly. Stories are expected to air later today with print stories expected tomorrow.

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