



Metro

Daily Brief

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Wednesday's Live Chat with Chair O'Connor on Metro.net will Focus on Traffic Relief

Board Chair Pam O'Connor's next one hour Live Chat on metro.net will take place on Wednesday, March 19th beginning at noon and will focus on the draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) that was released for public comment last week and strategies for funding traffic relief. The LRTP includes baseline funding for operations and many key highway and transit projects, but the strategic element is currently unfunded. Those projects will go even further toward holding the line on traffic congestion. We are encouraging the public to participate in the Live Chat by logging in at metro.net/chat starting at noon Wednesday or posting questions and comments in advance at the same site.

Imagine Campaign Launched

Today, Media Relations issued a [news release](#) noting that we have launched a major campaign to focus public attention on how individuals can work with us to achieve a free-flowing traffic future for Los Angeles County.

The news release notes that bus and rail advertising, web and newspaper ads and billboards that started debuting today are steering the public to a new interactive Metro.net web page where the public can learn more about current and proposed highway and public transit projects and options for funding them. The draft Long Range Transportation Plan is posted on the web site along with notices of seven public meetings that will be held through April to discuss the plan.

The release goes on to discuss that since Washington and Sacramento are strapped for funds, there has been a grassroots movement among local

business and community leaders and elected officials to explore creative ways of financing the dream of hassle-free mobility with local monies which would ensure local control. Among options being considered are public-private partnerships, toll roads, developer mitigation fees, higher parking rates, levying carbon taxes on polluting vehicles, levying container fees on port cargo and other ideas including putting a new half cent sales tax measure for transportation on the November ballot. We are facilitating public discussion of the mobility and funding challenges in unprecedented ways including offering a blog on metro.net/imagine. Board Chair Pam O'Connor also is scheduling a live one hour Internet chat at noon Wednesday, March 19, on metro.net and will host a one hour live call-in show on this issue between 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Thursday, March 27th, simulcast live on Santa Monica CityTV and LA Channel 36.

Metro Red Line Train Accident

Earlier this morning at approximately 6:45 a.m. a male patron apparently jumped in front of a Metro Red Line train as it was traveling northbound approaching the Vermont/Beverly station. Preliminary review of video from cameras at the station shows a male patron picking up a briefcase and walking closer to the edge of the platform, staying behind the yellow line. As the train approached the station the individual jumped in front of the moving train. The train operator applied the brakes, however the man did go under the train. He received only minor injuries in the incident and was transported to a nearby hospital. Numerous media outlets covered the accident this morning including KTLA, KNX, KFWB, Ch. 62 and City News Service. Train service was delayed because of single tracking around the incident. Normal service was restored at 7:50 a.m.

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