



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

Thursday, March 20, 2008

CEO Roger Snoble

20080320-0

## In this issue:

- [LA City Council Transportation Committee Actions](#)
- [Recap of APTA's Annual Legislative Conference](#)
- [DVD on the Draft 2008 LRTP Released](#)

---

## LA City Council Transportation Committee Actions

The Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee meeting on Tuesday included discussion on our proposed June 2008 bus service changes, the Wilshire Boulevard Bus-Only Lane project, Dodger Stadium bus service and State Assembly Member Mike Feuer's legislative initiatives.

Both LADOT and our staff discussed our bus service change process. Staff noted that the current number of lines impacted by the proposed service changes is reduced from the proposal presented at the February public hearings. Councilmember Bernard Parks asked if LADOT could work with us earlier in the service change process. LA City Deputy Mayor Jaime de la Vega stated the City could consider introducing a motion at our Board meeting that would direct staff to consult with LADOT and municipal operators before public release of the service change program. Staff mentioned that sector staff already works closely with other transportation providers and local jurisdictions on service changes. The bus service change item is scheduled for next Tuesday's full City Council agenda so that the Council has the opportunity to take a position on the service changes prior to our Board's discussion at its meeting next Thursday on staff's response to Supervisor Yvonne Burke's motion.

LADOT staff provided an update on the Wilshire Bus-Only Lane project and the Very Small Starts application reporting that the full funding request was recommended for the President's budget. In addition, we and LADOT agreed to partner in the environmental assessment study that is required for the project and pay \$200,000 each for the study. It is estimated that the study will take about a year to complete, after which design and construction can begin. The committee members were very supportive of the project and were eager to expedite the process.

---

LADOT staff reported on the most recent meeting between us, LADOT, and the

LA Dodgers on providing bus service to Dodger Stadium in response to a Councilmember Reyes and Garcetti motion. LADOT staff referenced the current LADOT budget constraints, as well as ours, and the significant impacts to existing riders if the current surrounding DASH and Metro routes in the area were modified to serve Dodger Stadium. Staff reported that a more viable option appears to be a game day shuttle from Sunset Boulevard, which was estimated to cost \$300,000 for the 2008 season. The Committee directed LADOT to report back on the details of providing a game-day shuttle, along with a proposed funding strategy.

Finally, the Committee approved the Chief Legislative Analyst's report on Assemblymember Mike Feuer's legislative package which includes AB 2321, a bill that we sponsored, which will update our sales tax authority. This item will be heard at the Council's Rules and Government Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th.

### **Recap of APTA's Annual Legislative Conference**

Last week, I joined Board Chair Pam O'Connor, Board Member Bonnie Lowenthal, several Board Staff, Chief Operations Officers Carolyn Flowers, and staff members from Planning and Programming, Bus Operations, Construction and Government Relations at the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) annual Legislative Conference in Washington DC. The conference topics included the future of transportation financing; the strategic role that transportation plays in climate control and federal reauthorization. The meeting included sessions and workshops on governmental affairs issues, coalition partnerships to increase funding for transit, green issues and infrastructure improvements.

Staff met with Congress members Grace Napolitano, Laura Richardson, Hilda Solis, and Diane Watson to discuss reauthorization, funding for us, and the Expo Rail project. In addition, staff met with FTA Administrator Jim Simpson about the Expo project and transit system services. Simpson complimented us on system services and branding initiatives. Simpson indicated that he will visit us after he attends the upcoming APTA Rail Conference which will be held in San Francisco.

During the conference, I had an opportunity to meet with Tyler Duvall to discuss the Congestion Pricing Relief program and Carolyn Flowers provided a presentation to the APTA Leadership group on Labor Relations.

### **DVD on the Draft 2008 LRTP Released**

Regional Communications and Countywide Planning staff collaborated on the

production of an educational DVD on our Draft 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The fifteen minute DVD outlines the Process, Goals and Challenges that we face in developing a comprehensive regional transportation plan through the year 2030. The DVD will be used to outreach broadly into the community countywide. Two copies of the English/Spanish DVD will be mailed to Board Members by the end of the week. Additional copies will be made available to Board Members upon request.

---

[Metro.net Home](#) | [Press Room](#) | [Projects & Programs](#) | [Meeting Agendas](#) | [Riding Metro](#) | [Metro Library](#)

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
1 Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, California 90012-2952  
Phone: 213-922-6888  
Fax: 213-922-7447

---