



**Metro**

# Daily Brief

**Friday, March 28, 2008**  
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**CEO Roger Snoble**

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### **Board Chair Urges Congress to Include Transportation Funding in Future Economic Stimulus Package**

Board Chair Pam O'Connor has written to House and Senate leaders to encourage them to include funding for transportation infrastructure projects should Congress adopt a second economic stimulus package later this year. In her letter sent yesterday, the Chair shared that "Los Angeles County is eager to put billions of federal dollars to work in support of carefully planned and cost-effective highway and transit projects."

Last month, Congress adopted and President Bush signed into law a \$170 billion economic stimulus package. Many political observers believe that should the economy remain weak, Congress will be urged to pass a second stimulus package, one that may include significant funding for major public works projects.

### **Public Tunes into Cable Television Call-In Show with Chair O'Connor**

Last night, Board Chair Pam O'Connor took about two dozen calls from viewers tuning into the one hour live cable television call-in show simulcast on LA Channel 36 and City TV Channel 16 in Santa Monica. The focus of the show, hosted by KFWB's Jack Popejoy, was on the draft Long Range Transportation Plan and coming up with local funding solutions to fully address the county's mobility challenges. There was also an environmental segment of the show where the Chair pointed how our green efforts not only benefit the environment

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but save on energy costs. Viewer questions and comments ranged from suggesting that major developments be delayed until new rail lines are in place to why not double-deck the freeways or extend Line 761 beyond Westwood. A tape of the show will be re-broadcast on the cable television channels, and Public Relations will make copies for interested Board members and their staff.

### **LA City Holds Ribbon-Cutting for the Pico Boulevard Corridor Enhancements**

Councilmember Herb Wesson hosted a dedication ceremony on Thursday, March 27th for the completion of the Pico Boulevard Corridor Enhancements. The project was funded through our Call for Projects Program in the amount of \$700,000. The project extends from Crenshaw Boulevard to La Brea Avenue and provides landscaped median islands, sidewalk reconstruction, new access ramps, trash receptacles, pole painting and a decorative crosswalk at the Pico and West intersection.

In attendance were community members and City of Los Angeles Public Works Staff. James Rojas with Countywide Planning and Development represented us at the event.

### **Board Support for Assembly Bill 2558**

Today, the Los Angeles Times Sacramento Bureau inquired about the Board's action to support Assemblymember Mike Feuer's Bill (AB 2558) that provides the agency with the authority to place a Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Fee initiative on the ballot. While the action indicates Board support for the concept, no specific proposal is on the table for this year's ballot. Staff reported that we are trying to create as many funding options as possible to create local funds for new public transit and congestion mitigation projects and programs. The agency has established a Sustainability Committee to evaluate ways in which the agency can address carbon reductions. Due to funding shortfalls at the state and federal levels, we are working on a number of fronts to evaluate all available options if the agency is going to build any new projects in the future. The story is expected to run over the weekend.

### **Next Week's Procurement Postings**

#### RFP for Workers' Compensation Investigation Services

We will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week for Workers' Compensation Investigation Services. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from April 4, 2008, through June 30, 2008.

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We currently have a contract with a panel of investigators and that contract will expire on July 31, 2008.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Maria V. Lechuga, Senior Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-7206.

IFB for the Design/Build of the Maintenance Building Annex at Division 3

We have released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for the design/build of the Maintenance Building Annex at Division 3. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from March 26, 2008, through June 25, 2008.

The purpose of this project is to design and construct a new annex building for expanded maintenance operations and a new lube room for above ground fluid distribution. The new annex building will house various shops and rooms to perform tire repair and storage, air conditioning repairs, frame and body repairs, welding facility maintenance and non-revenue vehicle repairs. This procurement action is the result of a Board action.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Leo Lopez, Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-3675.

RFP to Procure Financial Advisory Services for Treasury

We have released a Request for Proposals to procure Financial Advisory Services for Treasury. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from March 28, 2008, through June 30, 2008.

We currently have \$3.6 billion in debt financings outstanding in 25 fixed-rate bond issues, two variable rate demand obligations (VRDO), eight auction rate securities (ARS) series and two commercial paper programs. There are additionally nine LILO (Last In/Last Out) defeased lease transactions involving operating facilities, rail vehicles and buses. Other types of outstanding bonds are secured by grant revenues, benefit assessments and general revenues. The contractor will assist an investment advisor in the managing and investing of bond proceeds. The contractor will support the origination, management of refunding of existing and new equipment leases. The contractor will perform or verify all significant calculations related to bond sizing, yield and savings, as applicable for the particular financing as well as provide assistance in determining the timing, size and types of debt issuance that will meet our needs while achieving a balance of cost, risk and future financial flexibility.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Linda Wasley, Senior Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-4186.

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#### IFB to Procure Installation Kits

We will release an Invitation for Bids next week to procure installation kits. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from April 1, 2008, through June 30, 2008.

Installation kits are needed to re-power 223 New Flyer low-floor buses that are currently powered by Detroit Diesel Series 50 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) engines. The Detroit Diesel engines will be replaced with the Cummins 8.9 CNG engines.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Otto Ojong, Senior Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-1454.

#### IFB to Procure Diesel Fuel

We will release an Invitation for Bids next week to procure diesel fuel. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from April 1, 2008, through June 30, 2008.

Diesel fuel is needed to operate those buses and non revenue vehicles that run on that type of fuel. The contract to be awarded will be for a two-year period.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Juelene Close, Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-1066.

#### RFP to Procure a Contractor to Evaluate the FSP Program

We will release a Request for Proposals next week to procure a contractor to evaluate the Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) Program. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from April 7, 2008, through May 20, 2008.

The contractor will review, evaluate, and present recommendations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the FSP Program. This will cover operations, procurement, and other aspects of the program.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Kenneth Takahashi, Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-1047.

#### **Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events**

I will be out of the office beginning Thursday, April 3, 2008 through Friday, April 11, 2008. I will be returning to the office on Monday, April 14, 2008.

During my absence, Roger Moliere - Chief, Real Property Management and

Development, will act on my behalf with full signature authority. He can be reached at (213) 922-2225.

If you need to reach someone from my office, please call (213) 922-6888.

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