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Annual Call for Projects De-Obligation Process

On an annual basis, Planning staff reviews the status of each project previously funded through the Call for Projects whose funds are subject to lapse at the end of the fiscal year. Projects that are subject to de-obligation have not awarded construction contracts, obligated/allocated their federal/state funds or have not executed their required agreements/amendments.

As of May 12, 2008, there are 30 potential projects that are subject to de-obligation. Letters have been sent to each of the project sponsors notifying them of their potential de-obligation and providing them with an opportunity to appeal the preliminary de-obligation recommendation to our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on June 11, 2008. TAC will then make a recommendation to staff on whether the project should be de-obligated. Projects recommended for de-obligation will be brought to the Board in July 2008 for their action.

Bike to Work Week Kick-off Celebration Event

This morning, Board Member Ara Najarian, Los Angeles City Council Members Wendy Greuel and Tom LaBonge, and Division 15 Operation Manager Gary Spivack kicked-off "Bike to Work Week" with a celebration at the Metro Red Line Universal City Station. Also participating in today's event was Shrek and the Mummy, Universal Studios Hollywood characters, who hosted the Celebrity bike pit stop as part of the Bike to Work Week promotion.

The event was attended by channels 2/9, 5, 7, 35 City of Los Angeles, Telemundo Network, KBS Korean-TV, Daily News, Chinese Daily News, Radio stations KFI and

Metro Networks. KFWB Radio requested a phone interview later in the day. Early in the morning KPCC and Channel 4 aired interviews with Media Relations staff promoting the bicycle event. Stories are expected to run today and tomorrow.

Media Inquiry Regarding the U.S. Court of Appeals Hearing on the BRU's Appeal to Extend the Federal Consent Decree

Media Relations received media calls from KFWB radio and La Opinion regarding today's hearing of the Bus Riders Union's (BRU) request to extend a federal civil rights consent decree claiming we have not complied with the decree. The hearing was held at the U.S. Court of Appeals Building in Pasadena. Reporters were told that we have fully complied with the consent decree, which was allowed to expire in 2006.

Media Advisory Issued on Subway Display Ads Debut

Today, Media Relations issued a media advisory inviting the news media to attend the debut of a new electronic LED display for advertising purposes on the Metro Red Line subway, the first of such high-tech systems in North America. The two-year pilot project will generate \$240,000 a year in critically needed transit operation revenues at no cost to us. The event will begin at the Universal City Metro Red Line Station tomorrow at 9:00 a.m.

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