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Public Private Partnership—Request for Information

Yesterday, we mailed [letters](#) requesting information from representatives of the financial and construction industries regarding their interest in participating in a Public Private Partnership to deliver our 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan Strategic Plan Transit and Highway Projects. Additionally, the letter requested their interest in operating and maintaining our existing fixed guideway system using our existing organizations.

This was in response to the April 2008 Board adopted motion by Mayor Villargoisa as amended by Supervisor Antonovich and Director Lowenthal. In working with the makers of the motions, it was agreed that responses to our Request for Information will be due July 14, 2008 and staff will report back to the Board in September on the responses received. Additionally, a pre-response workshop will be held on May 29th at which staff will present the projects being considered for Public Private Partnerships and their current status. Potential responders will also be able to obtain any clarifications necessary to put together their responses.

Westside Extension Study Community Meetings

On Monday night, we concluded our third round of community meetings on the Westside Extension Transit Corridor Study. Four meetings were held from May 5th-12th at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, as well as in Westwood, Santa Monica and West Hollywood. Approximately 250 people attended these meetings and 66 members of the public provided verbal comments. The meetings were covered by various media outlets including KTLA Channel 5, the Daily News, community press and online media.

At these meetings, staff provided updates to the public regarding the reduced number of alternatives that have been screened for further analysis and refinement as the Alternatives Analysis (AA) Study continues. These include: four rail options, a Bus Rapid Transit option, a Traffic Systems Management option and a no-build option. The public continues to remain very supportive of some sort of rail project in the 38 square mile study area. We will be finalizing the AA Study and returning to the public in the summer, before making a recommendation to the Board in the fall.

Media Briefing to the Daily News on the FY09 Budget

A media briefing was held today with the Daily News regarding our proposed FY09 budget and the planned public hearing scheduled for tomorrow. We explained elements of the budget to the reporter and we talked about the financial risk in the budget including what might develop in Sacramento over the coming months in dealing with their projected deficit and possible cuts to transportation.

Media Tour of the Metro Red Line Tunnel Advertising Display

Today, Media Relations held a media availability to debut our new high-tech digital advertising display on the Metro Red Line. The first such system in North America, the LED system installed by Sidetrack Technologies Inc. turns northbound subway trains between Hollywood/Highland and Universal Stations into virtual movie theaters where passengers are dazzled by color, live-action video segments. The two-year pilot will generate at least \$240,000 a year in additional rail operating revenues for the agency. All fabrication, installation and maintenance costs are borne by the vendor. KNX, KFWB, L.A. Times, Daily News, Channels 2/9, 7, 11 & 34 are expected to run stories today and tomorrow.

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension – [Construction Notice](#)

On Wednesday, May 14 and Friday, May 16, 2008, track installation on the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension will result in continuous street closures for westbound traffic along Third Street between Townsend Avenue and Ditman Avenue. This closure will be implemented on May 14th and 16th between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

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