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**AB 2321 Update**

Yesterday's Daily Brief mentioned that AB 2321 (Sales Tax Authority) was expected to be considered in the Assembly today. However, as a result of a backlog of bills in the State Assembly, AB 2321 was not considered and will be brought for a vote tomorrow. Assemblymember Mike Feuer amended the bill today to remove the urgency clause. The floor alert is again provided for this measure.

**Contract C0885 Lankershim Depot Rehabilitation Project Bids Rejected**

Evaluation of the four bids received for the Lankershim Depot Rehabilitation Project was recently completed and all bids were determined to be non-responsive and contained fatal errors in responding to the Invitation for Bids (IFB). As a result, all four bids were rejected and the bidders were notified.

Our plan is to establish a Customer Service Center at this high traffic location and we will utilize the original rehabilitation design consultant to modify the contract to provide a ground level ticket sales office in the building. The modifications will include additional partitions, bullet resistant glass, and work on the electrical, fire protection, lighting, ventilation and communications systems. These modifications are subject to a building permit review and approval by the State Historic Preservation Office, which will likely result in the issuance of a new IFB in the early Fall of 2008.

The four bids received were higher than anticipated and it is likely that a significant

budget increase will be required for this project to go forward. At this time, the budget increase amount cannot be accurately determined, so Board approval will be sought once new bids are received and evaluated.

### **Expo Schedules Phase 2 Community Meeting to Provide an Update on Grade Crossings**

The Exposition Construction Authority (Expo) will be holding a Phase 2 Community Meeting to provide an update on the grade crossing determinations:

When: Monday, June 9, 2008

Where: Vista Del Mar Child & Family Services Gymnasium, 3200 Motor Ave., LA, CA 90034

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Please see [attached notice](#) for further details.

### **Media Inquiry into High Gas Prices vs. Metro Rail and Record Metro Gold Line Ridership**

KABC Eyewitness News is doing a story on the high cost of gas and people switching to public transit as an alternative. Today, a reporter interviewed media relations staff on the increases seen on Metro Rail, and in particular the Metro Gold Line, where ridership soared in both March and April. The reporter also interviewed Metro Gold Line patrons.

In addition, KABC Channel 7 followed up on a story reported by the Pasadena Star News citing Metro Gold Line ridership rising to record highs this spring. Staff reported that ridership reached 22,231 average weekday boardings in March, the highest to date. Media Relations staff used the opportunity to promote Metro Rail and Bus services as an alternative to high gas prices. These stories are expected to run today and tonight.

### **Media Inquiry Regarding Metro Bus Accident**

At 3:12 this afternoon, a Metro Bus traveling westbound on 5th Street between Gladys and Sanford was side-swiped by a big rig truck, forcing the bus off the road. The bus jumped the curb and ran into a building. There were no passengers on board the bus at the time as it has just left Division 1 to go into operation on Line 18. The bus operator was transported to County USC with unknown injuries, but was conscious and breathing. Several media outlets, including KCBS Channel 2 and

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KNX radio are covering the accident.

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