

## **MTA to Build Sound Wall Along Metro Green Line Tracks in Hawthorne**



Acoustical sound walls will be build along both sides of the elevated Metro Green Line tracks beginning at this site, just south of the Douglas/Rosecrans station.

(Aug. 18) Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-September on a 2,200-foot sound barrier intended to reduce the noise of Metro Green Line trains passing near the Holly Glen neighborhood in Hawthorne. The barrier is expected to cut noise by at least 10 decibels.

The six-foot-tall acoustical barrier will be installed on both sides of the elevated rail structure beginning at the south end of the Douglas/Rosecrans station and ending about 600 feet south of the intersection of Rosecrans Avenue and Aviation Boulevard. The \$975,000 project should be completed in February, 2001.

Since the Metro Green Line opened in 1995, the MTA has held a number of public meetings in the Holly Glen community, located at the northeast corner of Rosecrans and Aviation, to listen to neighbors' complaints about train noise, according to Project Engineer Albert Nijland of the Engineering and Construction Division.

### **Noise abatement measures**

The agency conducted extensive noise studies which indicated that passing trains produced between 55 and 72 decibels, depending upon time of day. The MTA also attempted such noise abatement measures as grinding train wheels to reduce friction against the tracks and running trains at slower speeds. When those efforts were not as successful as hoped, the agency decided to construct a sound wall.

Construction workers will erect some 275 steel columns at 16-foot intervals along the outside edge of the aerial structure. Then, the 16-foot-long, two-foot-wide panels will be slipped into place between the columns, three high to make a six-foot wall. The panels are made of fiberglass sandwiched between sheet metal.

To minimize construction noise, the contractor, Metro Builders of Laguna Niguel, will schedule most work between 9 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. Trains will be single-tracked through the construction area.

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