

OFF TO A GOOD START -- Los Angeles Council Member Rita Walters, Ninth District, (right) shares a shovel with local resident Richard Marshall during the groundbreaking ceremony for the pedestrian bridge at Long Beach Avenue and 53rd Street on Feb. 1. The bridge, which will provide an alternative crossing for local residents over the tracks of the Metro Blue Line and Union Pacific Railroad, will take about six months to construct. This project also includes various public improve- ments such as new curb and gutters, concrete sidewalks, guard rails around bridge columns, and handicapped-accessible curb ramps. Also participating in the event were, from left, James Okazaki with the Department of Transportation, Antonio Watson and Delpha Flad with Council Member Walters' office, and Duane Martin, Manager of Light Rail Operations, MTA Metro Blue Line. -- RICH **MORALLO**

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