

Public Affairs staff and volunteers have flooded communities with the MTA's Office of Safety, Systems and Security's 'safe crossing' message at schools, community events, businesses, organizations, and the advertising media. Here is a tour of just some of the stops along the way. Photos and captions, listed below, were submitted by Rich Morallo, assistant communications manager of Public Affairs. -- by Gayle Anderson.



Captions submitted by Rich Morallo.

Neighborhood children were guests of honor June 22 at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the **53rd Street Pedestrian Bridge** just north of the Slauson Metro Blue Line Station. At the event, held near the south-east corner of 53rd Street and Long Beach Avenue, officials announced that the bridge would be scheduled to be open to the public in three months.

The MTA participated at the **Van Nuys Block Party** for public safety and quality of life issues on June 30, 2001, where a trio of **Lakers fans** shows off the "Metro" logo.

A young visitor the MTA booth eyes the train safety pamphlet, "Tracks Means Trains."

More than 30 **train safety volunteers** who help teach the families and students along the Metro Blue Line alignment about track safety were recognized at an awards luncheon held Thursday, June 28 at the MTA. The safety volunteers, who include MTA staff, Los Angeles Unified School District teachers, LAPD officers, sheriff's deputies, and representatives from various rail companies, also saw a Power Point presentation documenting their work in the community.

MTA train safety **Tony Andersen** talks to students about keeping away from tracks during a visit to **Hooper Avenue Elementary School**, which is near the Slauson Metro Blue Line Station.

Members of the **MTA Citizens Advisory Council** toured Metro Rail on Friday, June 29, including a ride on the vintage Pacific Electric Red Car currently running on the Metro Blue Line, and a visit to the Division 11 maintenance facility in Long Beach. Rail Transit Operations Supervisors

Ricardo Perez (left) and Hector Gutierrez (right) escorted the guests during their visit.

Students from **Ascot Elementary School** near the Vernon Metro Blue Line Station took a Metro Rail tour on Thursday, June 14, and visited 7th and Metro Station where they learned about train **safety and security**. Escorting the students were LASD Deputies Albert Martinez, left, and David Neil, third from left, and LAPD Officers Adam Moore, second from left, and Nathan Rubalcaba.

Assisting the DAC members was train safety volunteer **Rudy Beuermann** explaining the Metro Rail system to a visitor at **Youthfest**.

Senior Communications Officer Greg Berumen announces the winners of the MTA/LA Galaxy Safety Writing and Poster Contest during the **awards luncheon** for the winners who are elementary and junior high school students at **Markham Middle School**, and Holmes Avenue and Nevin Avenue Elementary Schools.

Train safety presenter **Cynthia Shavers** explains traffic signage near a highway-rail grade crossing to bus operators with MV Transportation in Paramount last Saturday, July 7. The MTA's safety outreach program, traditionally focusing on schools along the Metro Blue Line tracks, has expanded to include bus companies including **Laidlaw** and MV Transportation, whose operators drive **Access Services** and DASH vehicles. The train safety volunteers explain to operators how to keep their vehicles, passengers and themselves safe near trackways.

The MTA recognized on Wednesday, June 13, the winners of the **train safety essay contest conducted at Los Angeles City College**, which is adjacent to the Santa Monica/LACC Metro Red Line subway station. Communications Officer Joanne Longsdon, far right, and Communications Aide Cristine Coronado, second from left, presented the awards, including a cake, to the students. (Photo courtesy of LACC).

Public Affairs Manager Lynda Bybee congratulates a winner and Poster Contest with Senior Communications Officer Greg Berumen in the background.

LA Galaxy soccer star and safety spokesperson **Mauricio Cienfuegos** helps present awards at the MTA/LA Galaxy Safety Writing and Poster Contest held at Markham Middle School last June 20.

(Seventeen students from schools near Metro Blue Line (MBL) stations received prizes for their winning entries in the **MTA/LA Galaxy Safety Writing and Poster Contest** during an awards luncheon held Wednesday, June 20 at Markham Middle School. Mauricio Cienfuegos, one of the leading scorers of the LA Galaxy soccer team and spokesperson of the train safety campaign, helped present the prizes which included Metro school bags and soccer tickets. The students, from Markham Middle School, Holmes Avenue Elementary School and Nevin Avenue Elementary School, wrote essays and drew posters expressing how they would stay safe around tracks and trains. Markham is near the 103rd MBL Station, while Holmes and Nevin are near the Washington and Slauson Stations, respectively. The MTA started a joint-safety campaign three months ago with LA Galaxy to help draw the attention of thousands of students who live and study near the MBL corridor.)

Rail Transit Operations Supervisor Ricardo Perez explains the Metro Rail to a class of **Metro Art docents** on Monday, June 25, at Division 20. The docents, who received safety and security training on both the light and heavy rail systems, will be conducting tours of Metro Art on the Metro Blue, Green and Red lines.

Division Advisory Committee (DAC) members including (from left) Norma Carrasco, Division 2; Joyce Covington-Trass, Division 5; Robert Rodriguez, Division 2; and Diana Elorriaga (seated), Division 1, provided MTA information during the June 23 **Youthfest** held at the L.A. Sports Arena. Joyce also escorted visitors onto an MTA bus (59) that was on display.

Assisting the DAC members was train safety volunteer Rudy Beuermann explaining the Metro Rail system to a visitor, and **Pat Clark** who brought her daughter to help. Hundreds of students picked up general and safety information from the MTA **Youthfest** booth.

MTA recognized winners of a train safety poster contest at **Condit Elementary School** in Claremont last Wednesday, May 9. From left, Senior Deputy Gary De Bondt, Sergeant Dennis Porter and Public Affairs staff member Stacy Romo, presented various prizes to the first grade students and encouraged their classmates to "Look, Listen and Live" around train tracks.

Two **Chinese delegations** recently visited the MTA and toured Metro Rail. On Monday, July 2, a group of visitors representing various transit and science and technology companies rode the subway, and on Thursday, July 5, another group of delegates from different highway and transportation offices received an agency orientation before touring Union Station and the Metro Red Line.

LAPD Chief Bernard Parks displays the train safety slogan, "Look, Listen, Live" at the **Van Nuys Block Party**

MTA Board Member **Yvonne Burke** displays the "Look, Listen and Live" train safety slogan while volunteer **Cristine Coronado** talks to visitors at the agency's booth during the June 16 **Brotherhood Crusade Health Fair** at Exposition Park. Hundreds of visitors learned how to stay safe near tracks and trains.

A Lakers fan and participant at the **Abilities Expo** held at the Long Beach Convention Center last Friday, Saturday and Sunday, was one of hundreds of visitors who passed by the MTA table. Members of the MTA Access Advisory Committee and the Division Advisory Committee answered questions regarding the accessible services on buses and trains, while safety volunteers passed out "Look, Listen and Live" train safety information.

Hundreds of students picked up general and safety information from the MTA **Youthfest** booth.

[Back to Bulletin Board](#)