



There's a New Name for Light-Rail Line to Pasadena

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(Nov. 29, 2001) Go for the Gold! That was the MTA Board's decision, Thursday, in choosing "Metro Gold Line" as the new name for the Pasadena Blue Line.

With much good humor, the Board approved Supervisor Michael Antonovich's long-standing motion to give a unique name to the 13.7-mile line. The Metro Gold Line is scheduled to open in July 2003 and will be operated by the MTA.

The line will serve the communities of Chinatown, Lincoln Heights, Highland Park, South Pasadena and Pasadena. The trip from Sierra Madre Villa Station in Pasadena to Union Station will take 33 minutes.

The Metro Gold Line will provide a direct link to the Metro Red Line subway at Union Station and will expand the Metro Rail System from its current 59.4 miles to 73.1 miles.

Within this decade, the MTA plans to construct and operate two additional light-rail lines – an extension of the Metro Gold Line from Union Station to East Los Angeles via Boyle Heights and a line that would operate on the Exposition right-of-way from downtown Los Angeles to Exposition Blvd./Vermont Ave. That line also might have an extension to Venice Blvd./Robertson Blvd.

In other business, the Board:

- **Approved a revision of the MTA's military leave policy, Item 38.** The policy now expands military leave for reservists recalled to active duty from 30 to 180 days, with a further 180-day extension following a review. It includes a provision for the agency to pay the differential between a reservist's military and MTA pay and extends agency benefits during the active duty period. To date, 12 MTA employees have been recalled for service. The policy now will incorporate current provisions of the California Military and Veteran's Code and updates from the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act in the MTA's policy.
- **Approved a motion concerning a proposed joint development at Westlake/MacArthur Park station, Item 33.** The motion requires the developer of the proposed residential and retail complex to make satisfactory progress by January or face the possible loss of a negotiating agreement with the MTA. A report is due at the January Board meeting. The Board put over until January a motion, Item 42, granting a six-month exclusive negotiation agreement with the proposed developer of 12.41 acres of MTA property at the North Hollywood station.
- **Awarded a \$70.5 million contract, Item 10, for implementation of the Advanced Transportation Management**

System (ATMS). The contract, awarded to Motorola Corp., includes a radio subsystem, computer-aided dispatch, automatic vehicle location, video security system, Automatic Passenger Counter and integration with the Universal Fare System.

- **Awarded a contract for Automatic Passenger Counters and associated services, Item 40.** The motion awards a 34-month, \$1.569 million contract to Urban Transportation Associates for the equipment, which will collect and process data for inclusion in the National Transit Database Report and update the MTA's planning database.

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