

Rail Operations Control Prepares for the future

By ALISHA GOMEZ

(July 23, 2002) With the opening of the Metro Gold Line scheduled in 2003, the Rail Operations Control center has started making room for new equipment needed to operate the line.

ROC Manager Hector Guerrero says the Pasadena rail line control equipment will start to come in around the end of this year.



Metro Gold Line winds through Chinatown to Pasadena and its opening in 2003.

Some of the equipment scheduled for the ROC will be an upgrade to current Metro Blue Line computer equipment. "It's part of the same project," says Guerrero.

The reconfiguration of the building, located adjacent to the Rosa Parks Metro Rail station, includes the possibility of tearing down some walls, taking out one of the offices in the control center and moving chillers and cold water lines that cool the floor and the computer equipment.

Computers, printers and copy machines are just some pieces of equipment that already have been moved. Guerrero estimates there is enough floor space to bring in the equipment for the Metro Gold Line.

"It's just a matter of moving things around," says Guerrero. "We have enough room downstairs for the additional computers and other equipment."

With planning underway for the Eastside Extension and the Exposition Rail Line, the Metro Rail Operations must start preparing for the location of additional equipment in the ROC building.

"We've made the changes we can," says Guerrero. "With the Eastside and Exposition segments, we now have to look at the whole project as an expansion of the building."

There are four options for the ROC. They include constructing a larger building, reconfiguring the current structure, adding a third floor or adding space on three sides of the existing building.

The design phase of the reconfiguration project has been funded. Once that phase is completed, a package is ready for bid, and cost has been estimated, capital funding can be requested.

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