

Mobile Theater Would Provide Realistic Rail Safety Education

(Oct. 9, 2002) People who live or work along the Metro Blue and Gold Lines will experience the speed, weight and impact of a moving train – all within the confines of a “multi-media mobile theater” MTA plans to use to enhance rail safety education.



Seen here in its configuration as a “Speed Theater,” the multi-media mobile theater would be refurbished for MTA’s rail safety education program.

If the Board approves its purchase, MTA Community Relations will deploy the mobile theater in early 2003 at community events, shopping centers, schools, churches and other venues.

The one-of-a-kind mobile unit, built into an expandable semi-trailer, has interactive production technology in a theater setting. Fitted with moveable seats, it permits realistic three-dimensional presentations that can simulate a train’s speed and movement, braking and even an emergency stop.

“This experience can make a lasting impression on participants while emphasizing safe behavior near operating trains,” according to a report to the Board. “The mobile safety theater trailer will deliver a physical and visual impact...that will have a lasting imprint on how to live safely with our light-rail systems.”

Designed by a Chatsworth company, it has previously toured the United States as an entertainment studio promotion vehicle. The Board will be asked to approve the purchase of the trailer and tractor at \$400,340.

MTA’s rail safety education and outreach program has been recognized as “exemplary” by an American Public Transportation Association peer review group.

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