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Riders at the Wilshire/Western Metro Rapid stop can now relax on uniquely contoured, all-concrete seats positioned on the station plaza.



PHOTOS BY GAYLE ANDERSON

New Metro Art Projects Enhance Rapid Bus Experience

- Project is one of the first completed for Metro Buses

By DAVE SOTERO

(April 7, 2004) Three Metro Art projects that will make many Metro Rapid patrons' commutes more enjoyable and memorable have just been completed.

Local artist Beep'Inc. has partnered with Metro to develop specially designed concrete station seating for the Wilshire/Western Metro Rapid stop. Vibrant, graffiti-resistant bus seat fabrics and vintage overhead bus cards were designed as part of the Metro Rapid Bus Development Project.

It is one of the first Metro Art projects completed exclusively for Metro Buses. Metro's prestigious Metro Art Program has so far focused mainly on Metro Rail.

Riders at the Wilshire/Western Metro Rapid stop can now relax



Artist Pae White and architect Tom Marble of Beep'Inc. also designed the new graffiti-resistant fabric for Metro Rapid seats.

sense of place.

on uniquely contoured, all-concrete seats positioned on the station plaza. Unlike regular bus stop benches, the concrete seats provide individuals with a unique

Withstand heavy use

The seats are rugged enough to withstand heavy use and can be cleaned easily. Colored floor medallions accentuate the concrete seating area.

Led by artist Pae White and architect Tom Marble, the team also redesigned Metro Rapid seat fabrics with a vibrant, updated look. The design team worked directly with the fabric company to create a wildly colorful, graffiti-resistant design that generates a lively, fun atmosphere on board Rapid buses.

Metro Rapid buses will be retrofitted with the new seat fabrics on an ongoing basis.

Finally, the team designed new overhead posters – bus cards – that feature symbols derived from transit passes of the 1930s and 1940s to describe romantic dramas carried out in locations throughout the City of Los Angeles.