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PHOTOS: BILL HEARD

< A paved section of the Metro Orange Line transitway looking west from the North Hollywood station.

Two-Lane Roadway is Orange Line’s Centerpiece

Metro Orange Line Special Report

- [Picking Up the Pace of Construction to Meet Completion Date](#)
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(May 18, 2004) The centerpiece of the Metro Orange Line will be a 26-foot-wide, two-lane roadway for the 60-foot-long articulated buses that will carry commuters across the Valley. The buses will stop at 13 stations along the way.

The right-of-way, which varies from 40 feet to 200 feet wide, begins across the street from the North Hollywood Metro Rail station and courses west through residential neighborhoods, commercial

zones and parklands finally to terminate at Warner Center.

A construction crew prepares a section of two-lane roadway for paving. >



Pedestrian paths and bikeways will flank some stretches of the roadway. In residential areas, landscaped berms will be topped by concrete sound walls reaching 12 feet above the surface of the bus lane.

Much of the old rail route for years had been hard-packed earth and an unkempt tangle of weeds that often attracted homeless people and was a magnet for crime and drug use. It was cleared and some structures were demolished late last year.

Graders now have leveled the center of the right-of-way; earthen berms have been built; trenches dug and curbing poured in places. Drainage lines have been laid and conduits for fiber optic cable are being installed to transmit information to Orange Line controllers in the Bus Operations Center.

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