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A Gold Line runs through it...



Rendering> Simulated Boyle Heights Mariachi Plaza Station

FTA OKs \$490.7 Million for Gold Line Extension to East L.A.

CEO signs \$600.4 million construction contract

- See ["Kudos for All"](#) for a full list of those who worked to gain funding Eastside Extension.

By ED SCANNELL

(June 1, 2004) The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved \$490.7 million in federal funding, Tuesday, for a six-mile extension of the Metro Gold Line from Union Station to Little Tokyo, Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles.

Execution of the federal Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) allowed CEO Roger Snoble to sign a \$600.4 million construction contract, Tuesday afternoon, to build the extension. The line is expected to begin service in 2009 through one of

What will be ...



the most densely populated areas of Los Angeles County.

"Metro appreciates the work of our entire congressional delegation which brought this important project across the finish line," said MTA Board Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky.

The \$898.8 million Eastside Extension is Metro's highest priority rail construction project. It will include eight stations and serve one of the most densely populated areas of Los Angeles County between its point of origin at Union Station to its terminus at Pomona and Atlantic boulevards. The extension is due to open in December of 2009.

Paved way for construction

The signing of the Full Funding Grant Agreement followed a mandatory 60-day congressional review of the project. With Snoble's signing of the \$600.4 million contract, Eastside LRT Constructors can now begin construction of the Metro Gold Line extension.

Eastside LRT is a joint venture of Washington Group International, Obayashi Corporation and Shimmick Construction Corporation.

"This is truly a historic day for Los Angeles," said Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard. "I would like to commend everyone involved for supporting this critically needed project."

Roybal-Allard promised to continue working "to make sure adequate federal funding is provided to complete the Gold Line extension...."

'Couldn't be better news'

"There couldn't be better news for the people of Little Tokyo, Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles," said Supervisor Gloria Molina. "This line will link them to the Metro Rail System and provide them with easier access to jobs, schools, medical facilities and places of recreation."

"The Eastside Extension project is an excellent example of a region coming together for a gratifying result," said Snoble. "We are pleased that the process has worked and I look forward to signing the contract to begin construction of this much-needed addition to the Metro System."

"These are tough economic times and regions across the country are competing vigorously for a share of a shrinking pot of federal money," said LA City Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa. "I am pleased that Congress and the FTA have recognized how much this project will improve the lives of thousands of people who live and work in the area this line will serve."



Rendering> Simulated East L.A. Civic Center Station



Rendering> Simulated Soto Station