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Board Chairman Frank Roberts, left, City Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa and Supervisor Gloria Molina, center, commended RAC members, from left Rita Govea Rodriguez, co-chair Diana Tarango, Richard Alonzo, Armando Ybarra, Louis Martinez, Rachel Santos, Joel Bloom and Frances Hashimoto.



PHOTO: BILL HEARD

### Board Commends Eastside Extension Citizens' Group

(July 23, 2004) Members of a citizens' group that fought for construction of the Metro Gold Line's Eastside Extension were commended by the Board, Thursday, for their "dedicated commitment" to the project.

The Board cited the 25 members of the Eastside Review Advisory Committee (RAC) for their "leadership, vision and efforts (resulting) in successfully planning, designing and securing the funding" for the \$898.8 million, six-mile rail line.

The RAC was formed in 1995 to review such issues as the impact rail construction might have on the environment of the Eastside, what mitigation measures might be needed, economic development along the right-of-way, community participation, finance and budgeting.

"They've really been out on the front lines," said Supervisor Gloria Molina. "It is this community group that has been instrumental in being advocates to the community about how essential this (rail line) is."

Local, state and federal officials broke ground at Union Station, July 17, to mark the official beginning of construction of the Eastside Extension. The line is scheduled to open in late 2009.

