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## CEO Orders Work to Resume on Metro Orange Line

- A dozen uncompleted intersections are 'immediate focus'

(Aug. 26, 2004) "As of this morning, we have removed the 'stop work' order on the Metro Orange Line construction," CEO Roger Snoble reported at Thursday's Board of Directors meeting. "The contractor will be back on the job this afternoon and fully remobilized by next week."

Snoble said contractor Shimmick-Obayashi's "immediate focus" will be on completing 11 intersections left unfinished following the Aug. 2 stay ordered by the Court of Appeal.

The \$330 million project has been on hold for 24 days, leaving an uncompleted construction site that stretches from the North Hollywood Metro Rail station 14 miles west to Warner Center.

"It is essential that this project resume as quickly as possible," said Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, whose district encompasses the construction area. "It's costing \$70,000 a day to have this work stoppage and exposure of literally \$100 million dollars or more if (construction is) suspended for any length of time."

He asked Snoble to report in September on the possibility of compensating merchants whose businesses were impacted by construction prior to the work stoppage.

As construction is set to resume, attorneys for the agency will proceed with an appeal to the California Supreme Court. The high court will be asked to overturn a Court of Appeal ruling requiring the agency to study the Metro Rapid system as an alternative to the Metro Orange Line.

That issue was not included in the original Environmental Impact Report (EIR) because the Metro Rapid was only a pilot project when the EIR was being written. The study could take as long as nine months.