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Bus Controller Nadine Triche-Williams demonstrates the Automatic Vehicle Locator and ATMS systems for Councilman Tom La Bonge (second from right) and neighborhood council members.



LA City Councilman La Bonge, Community Leaders Tour Metro
By JODY LITVAK

(Feb. 2, 2005) Los Angeles City Councilman Tom La Bonge brought members of neighborhood councils in his district to Metro, late last month, to learn about transportation.

The council members began their day at different Metro Red Line stations where they rode to Metro Headquarters accompanied by a member of Councilman La Bonge's staff.

Westside/Central Sector General Manager David Armijo gave the group an overview of the broad range of Metro activities and responsibilities.

He discussed bus and rail operations, the upcoming Metro Orange Line, other new transportation initiatives, funding for street and freeway improvements, the Freeway Service Patrol, and more.

PHOTOS: JODY LITVAK



Westside/Central General Manager David Armijo briefs community leaders

from Councilman Tom La Bonge's district about Metro.

Funding a challenge

La Bonge, also a member of Metro's Board of Directors, addressed some of the issues that come before the Board.

He indicated that funding is always a challenge and discussed Gov. Schwarzenegger's proposal to borrow transportation funds to help alleviate the state budget crisis.

"The group had a lot of good questions and suggestions," said Armijo.
"I was particularly impressed with their ideas about how to improve customer service. I will be discussing many of those ideas with my colleagues at Metro."

Following the briefing, the group toured the Bus Operations Center and learned about the advantages of the new ATMS and Automatic Vehicle Locator technology. They also were briefed on rail operations as they rode the Metro Red Line back to where they began their day.

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