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Board Vote Advances Division 9 Expansion Plans

- New transportation building, maintenance improvements

(April 1, 2005) Expansion of transportation and maintenance facilities at San Gabriel Valley Division 9 moved ahead a significant step, this month, with Board approval of an increase in the life of project budget to \$16.5 million.

Metro's Facilities-Operations is expected to award a design/build contract for construction of a state-of-the-art transportation building in April. The building will house division offices, an operator break room and locker room, a Sheriff's substation and the sector administrative offices.

Preliminary design work has been completed, and the building has been designed to meet environmental and energy standards of the United States Green Building Council. Construction could begin in late summer, with a completion date of September 2006. Division 9 was built in 1974.

With the construction of the new transportation building, Metro will be able to increase the amount of bus parking and make way for expansion and/or reconstruction of Division 9's maintenance building.

With the extra capacity, the division will be able to expand from its current 192 buses to accommodate 300 CNG buses, matching expected fleet growth through at least 2010.

The Phase 1 maintenance improvements, which included new battery, tire and brake shops and the addition of a storage canopy, have been completed. Construction of the new transportation building will complete Phase 1 of the improvement project.

The Board-approved construction budget includes funding already expended for improvements to the division maintenance operation and funds for construction of the new transportation building.