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CEO Roger Snoble, center, hosted Congressional aides, from left, Aaron Klein, economist for the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Ken House, minority staff director for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; Joyce Rose, professional staff member for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Subcommittee on Highways and Transit; Sherry Little, senior professional staff member for the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and Rich Steinmann, FTA liaison representative for the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.



## Senior Congressional Aides Tour Metro Facilities

By RAFFI HAMPARIAN

(April 5, 2005) A group of senior Congressional transportation aides visited Metro, last week, to tour the agency's facilities and construction sites and to discuss transportation issues.

The group included staff directors for the chairman and ranking member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Senior aides representing the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Banking Committee, which has jurisdiction over the transit portion of the Senate Transportation Reauthorization bill, also attended.



Congressional aides touring the Metro system

During the tour, CEO Roger Snoble expressed Metro's appreciation for the Congressional staffers' leadership in addressing, through the reauthorization of TEA21, the transportation challenges and opportunities faced by Metro.

## Innovative methods

The staffers witnessed several of the innovative methods

visited the historic Mariachi Plaza to view construction of the Eastside Extension are, from left, Aaron Klein, Joyce Rose, Rich Steinmann, Ken House and Sherry Little.

Metro is employing, through construction of the Metro Orange Line and the operation of the Rapid Bus system, to solve the unique transportation challenges facing Los Angeles County.

The staffers had a chance to ride the Metro Red Line and the Metro Gold Line. They also visited the Eastside Extension construction site and the Bus Operations Center, and learned about Metro's commitment to development of housing and businesses near transit facilities.

The Congressional aides were also given detailed information about Metro's serious concerns related to changes being planned for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program in the Senate Transportation Reauthorization bill.

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