


[Home](#)
[CEO Hotline](#)
[Viewpoint](#)
[Classified Ads](#)
[Archives](#)
[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

[Safety](#)
[Pressroom](#) (web)

[CEO Hotline](#)
[Metro Projects](#)
[Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)

[Archives](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[Research Center/
Library](#)
[Metro Cafe](#) (pdf)

[Metro Classifieds](#)
[Retirement
Round-up](#)

Metro Info

[Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)

[Org Chart](#) (pdf)

[Policies](#)
[Training](#)
[Help Desk](#)
[Intranet Policy](#)

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Employees encouraged to patronize Eastside businesses

(April 8, 2005) As construction crews continue to make progress with the Eastside Extension, Metro is working closely with businesses and residents to mitigate the impact of the project in Boyle Heights.

Crews will begin installing "soldier piles" at 1st and Soto this weekend, and decking of the street at 1st and Boyle is almost complete.

In addition to providing construction updates and partnering with the contractor in the mitigation effort, Community Relations – Capital Projects is encouraging Metro employees to patronize local businesses impacted by the project.

"We'd like to partner with employees as well," says Senior Community Relations Officer Yvette Robles. "From planning a vacation to dry cleaning, from upholstery services to ordering an awards trophy or having a delicious lunch, all of these services and more are convenient to our employees on their lunch hour or going to or from work."

Only a 10-minute ride

The Eastside business district is no more than a 10-minute ride from One Gateway Plaza, Robles points out, and both 1st and Boyle and 1st and Soto have dozens of stores and restaurants.

"By using these services, employees would help keep a vibrant business community healthy during construction," she says.

Community Relations has put together a handy matrix of restaurants in the construction zone that provide catering services. Copies of local restaurant menus are available from Intern Jackie Cornejo at 922-4687.