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## 500 Volunteers Needed to Staff Metro Orange Line Opening

- Deadline for volunteering is Friday, Oct. 7

By BILL HEARD, Editor

(Sept. 14, 2005) Metro employees will have an opportunity next month to participate in one of the agency's most exciting events this decade – the opening of the Metro Orange Line.

Five hundred volunteers will be needed both Saturday, Oct. 29, and Sunday, Oct. 30, to provide crowd control, ensure safety of guests and employees, and to staff special events planned for the debut of the 14-mile transitway linking North Hollywood and Warner Center.

The deadline for volunteering is Friday, Oct. 7. Copies of the [employee volunteer form](#) will be available at all operating divisions and can be downloaded from the [myMetro.net](#) homepage.

Volunteers will be expected to work both days of the opening weekend opening, according to Danielle Boutier, director, Communication Services. Each will receive two Orange Line staff T-shirts and a staff cap to wear as the opening event uniform.

Volunteers will be scheduled to work one of three eight-hour shifts on Saturday – 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. or 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Two shifts are scheduled on Sunday – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### Indicate a preference

"We're asking volunteers to indicate their preference and we'll try to accommodate them as best we can," says Boutier.

Although volunteers will be placed at all Orange Line stations, most will be located at the five "event stations" – North Hollywood, Van Nuys, Balboa, Pierce College and Warner Center.

Volunteer training sessions will be scheduled in October. If possible, volunteers will have an opportunity to visit one or more Orange Line stations, otherwise they'll see a comprehensive presentation about the transitway and planned events.

Represented employees who volunteer for the opening event will be paid according to the terms of their collective bargaining agreements.

Non-represented employees classified as hourly, non-exempt workers will receive compensatory time off in lieu of compensation for hours worked in excess of 40 hours. The compensatory time will be counted as time-and-a-half hours worked over 40 per week.

Exempt employees will have straight time added to their TOWP hour

bank. All employees must have their supervisor’s permission to volunteer for the Orange Line opening.

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