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- ▶ [Employee Recognition](#)
- ▶ [Employee Activities](#)
- ▶ [Metro Projects](#)
- ▶ [Facts at a Glance \(web\)](#)
- ▶ [Archives](#)
- ▶ [Events Calendar](#)
- ▶ [Research Center/Library](#)
- ▶ [Metro Classifieds](#)
- ▶ [Bazaar](#)

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- ▶ [Training](#)
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## Board Acts on Bus-Only Lane, Transit Security, Orange Line Graffiti

- [Item 8. Wilshire Boulevard Bus-Only Lane](#)
- [Item 14. Bus Digital Video Recorders](#)
- [Item 15. Metro Rail Surveillance Equipment](#)
- [Item 29. Metro Orange Line Graffiti](#)

(Sept. 30, 2005) The Board of Directors approved motions, during its September meeting, that will advance the bus priority lane project on Wilshire Boulevard and improve bus and rail security.

Earlier, the Operations Committee approved a plan to help fight graffiti on the Metro Orange Line.

**Item 8, Wilshire Boulevard Bus-Only Lane.** In March 2004, Metro and the City of Los Angeles opened a one-mile, bus-only demonstration lane on Wilshire Boulevard just west of the Veterans Administration Hospital. Studies showed the priority lane reduced bus running times and improved schedule reliability, and, in September 2004, the LA City Council made the lane permanent.

At its September meeting, the Board voted to direct the CEO to report back within 60 days with a formal scope of work that would include community outreach, street and road improvements and possible off-street parking, along with a formal project budget and implementation schedule for extending the priority lane into Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and West LA.

Metro also must complete a transit priority lane study, develop criteria for priority lanes and identify other possible priority lane corridors.

**Item 14, Bus Digital Video Recorders.** The Board approved a motion providing an additional \$1.15 million for installation of upgraded digital video recorders (DVR) on 397 Neoplan buses purchased in the late 1990s. Unlike the older DVR's, the new units can store and transmit "real-time" images to the ATMS central monitoring system.

Installation of the first 130 DVR units began, Aug. 11, on Neoplan buses at South Bay Division 18. With the new funding, Metro also can install new DVRs on 99 buses at North Los Angeles Division 3 and on 168 buses at Gateway Division 10.

**Item 15, Metro Rail Surveillance Equipment.** The Board approved a motion ratifying a \$2.1 million contract awarded in August to a Santa Ana company to provide pan-tilt-zoom cameras and a DVR system to improve Metro Rail security surveillance.

In addition, the amended motion grants the CEO temporary authority, through January 2006, to execute contract awards for those security enhancements presented to the Board in July and August.

**Item 29, Metro Orange Line Graffiti.** The sound walls and other areas of the Metro Orange Line have proved to be targets for graffiti vandals in the San Fernando Valley.

The Operations Committee approved a motion, Sept. 20, modifying the current contract of a North Hollywood maintenance service to include graffiti removal on the transitway for 52 months following the opening of revenue service.

The \$914,004 contract modification calls for up to three full-time graffiti removal technicians and service vehicles equipped with graffiti-removal equipment and supplies. The technicians would be deployed each weekday to inspect and clean Orange Line facilities.

“Removal of graffiti,” says the committee report, eases the “negative visual impact on transit system riders, adjacent property owners and the general public.”