


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

## Resources

[Safety](#)
[Pressroom \(web\)](#)
[Ask the CEO](#)
[CEO Forum](#)
[Employee Recognition](#)
[Employee Activities](#)
[Metro Projects](#)
[Facts at a Glance \(web\)](#)
[Archives](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[Research Center/Library](#)
[Metro Classifieds](#)
[Bazaar](#)

## Metro Info

[30/10 Initiative](#)
[Policies](#)
[Training](#)
[Help Desk](#)
[Intranet Policy](#)

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## Board OKs Div. 20 Project, New EO Position, Bus Shelter Program

- Actions taken at December Board meeting

(Jan. 4, 2006) Board action in December included votes approving a retail and housing complex at Metro Rail Division 20, a new executive officer for real estate and a bus shelter maintenance program.

**Item 34, Metro Red Line Yards Joint Development.** The Board approved a motion authorizing the CEO to enter a joint development agreement with a firm that plans to build a housing, parking and retail complex on 2.7 acres of the 50-acre Division 20 site.

Students attending the nearby Southern California Institute of Architecture would be given preference in renting the 420 to 480 apartments planned for the development.

The project will have between 10,000 and 60,000 square feet of retail space, including a plaza and possibly a grocery store. Plans call for about 700 parking spaces, 200 of which would be for Metro Red Line staff parking – a minimum increase of 60 staff spaces.

**Item 39, New Executive Officer for Real Estate.** The Board approved a new non-contract position for an executive officer for Real Property Management and Development.

Roger Moliere, deputy director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors Asset Management and Planning Bureau has been named to the new position following a recruitment that drew more than 30 applications. He will join Metro on Monday, Jan. 9.

In his new position, Moliere will be responsible for developing, planning, directing and managing joint development projects and new business opportunities for Metro, as well as providing high-level direction on all Metro real estate activity.

Moliere, an attorney who has a background in real estate development, has been employed by the county for the past nine and a half years.

**Item 27, Bus Shelter Maintenance.** The Board approved Councilman Bernard Parks' motion directing the Metro staff to "develop a protocol requiring bus operators to monitor bus stop conditions and report broken and/or soiled bus benches."

Parks' motion notes that Metro doesn't own or have jurisdiction over most bus stops, but it calls for "more aggressive measures" to keep bus stops, benches and shelters clean and protected from vandalism.

The motion directs the staff to "bring together all agencies" responsible

for bus shelters to discuss a model shelter design, a strategy to provide shelters at all bus stops and a "comprehensive rehabilitation and maintenance protocol."

The Board action also directs the staff to provide a status report on the South Bay Service Sector's "See it, Report it" program and plans to implement the program agency-wide as soon as possible. The South Bay program encourages bus operators and field staff to file reports identifying shelters that need cleaning or other work.

**Item 29, Upgrade SCADA Equipment.** The Operations Committee approved a motion awarding a \$1.34 million contract to an Annapolis, Md., company to replace remote units that help control the movement, and report the status, of Metro Red Line trains in Segment 1, which opened in 1993.

The Remote Terminal Units (RTUs) are part of the SCADA automated train control system used throughout the subway system. The new RTUs will replace outdated equipment at Union Station; Civic Center; Pershing Square; 7th and Metro; and Westlake/MacArthur stations; at the Rail Operations Center and at the Metro Red Line yard.

**Item 35, Program \$618 Million.** The Board approved a motion authorizing the CEO to program \$618 million in state and federal funds.

Among the provisions of the motion, a sum of \$608 million is slated for highway and transit capital improvement and support. Another \$10 million will be used as back-up funding to "leverage" up to \$19 million in unused federal appropriations for countywide transit projects.

The Board also approved an amended motion reauthorizing \$68.7 million as fulfilling part of Metro's commitment to fund 17 percent of the cost of the Alameda Corridor East (ACE) project, capped at \$162 million for Phases I and II. If Metro is the only available funding source for Phase II design and project readiness work, then the amended motion says ACE should be able to draw Metro funds.