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Mark Clifford's spectacular photograph captured Metro's Valentine's Day message on Feb. 14, 2005. The Gateway Building will again light up the downtown skyline with love on Tuesday night.



Photography by Mark Clifford

From Metro, with Love

Employees will turn on the Heartlight for all of LA to see.

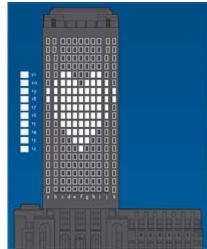
• Consider it a Valentine's Day card to Los Angeles from Metro.

By GAYLE ANDERSON

(Feb. 10, 2006) Metro Headquarters will cast a romantic glow on downtown Los Angeles Tuesday as nine-story hearts of light shine from all four sides of the Gateway Building in the second annual Valentine's Day message.

"It's a way to show Los Angeles we care," says Neil Sadler of Metro's Design Studio. Sadler and a team of designers will work with General Services to arrange heart-shaped configurations of office lights and window blinds during the evening hours of Valentine's Day.

But it will take the whole building to do it.



How it works: Blueprint outlines configuration of office lights and window blinds that creates the nine-story hearts. Employees will close the blinds on all floors on Tuesday afternoon and leave the blinds accessible for the Valentine's Day team to reopen in the shape of a heart.

"We 're asking Metro employees who share or face a window to close the blinds by 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon," says Sadler. "We're also asking employees to leave the blinds accessible for the Valentine's Day team, who will come around to each floor and open certain blinds to create the heart shape."

The light display will become visible at sunset and end at 10 p.m. when the building's office lights automatically shut off for the night.

As the skyscraper sparkles in the downtown skyline, the Heart Lights will be visible throughout the region and cast a glow on traffic along three freeways – I-5, I-10 and I-101.

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