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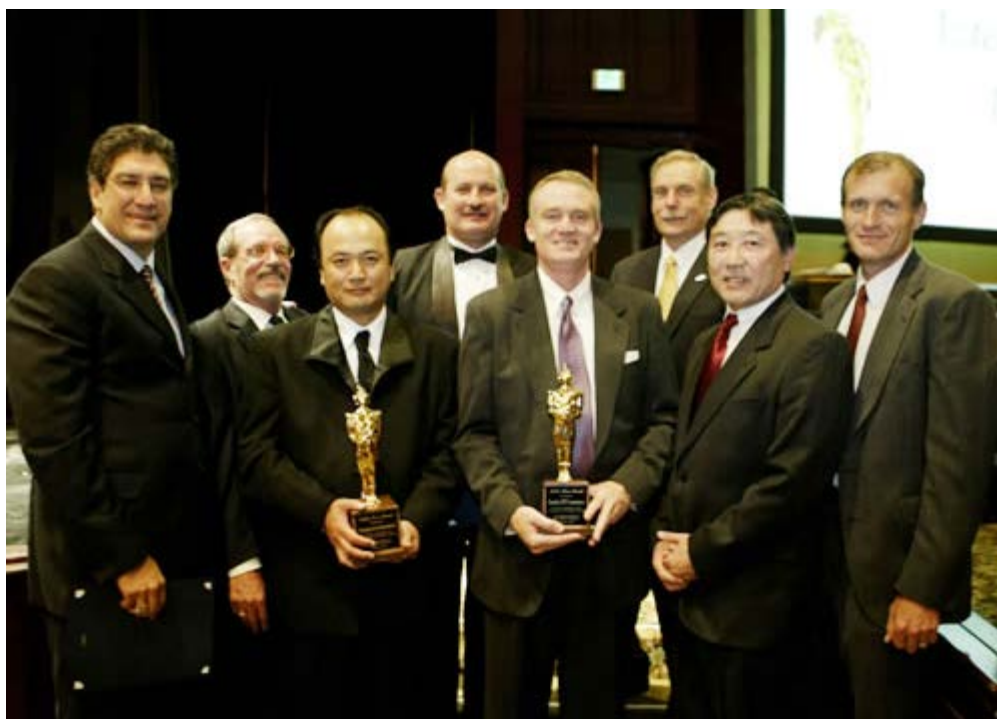
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Attending the Aztec Awards dinner were, from left, Mike Aparicio and Mike Roddy of the Eastside/ Washington Group; Naohito Nakamura, Eastside/Obayashi Corporation; Greg Therrien, Washington Group; Carl Sandstedt, Eastside/Washington Group; CEO Roger Snoble; Metro's Dennis Mori; and Dan Trembly, Eastside/Washington Group. (Photo by Adrian Sanchez)

## Gold Line Extension Contractor Receives Community Service Award

By NED RACINE

(Oct. 13, 2006) The Mexican American Opportunity Foundation honored the prime contractor for the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, Oct. 6, citing the company's jobs programs.

Eastside LRT Constructors – a joint venture of the Washington Group, Obayashi Corporation and Shimmick Construction – received an Aztec Award at the foundation's 39th annual awards dinner.

The award recognized the contractor's contribution to the Mexican-American community through the Metro Jobs Program.

Joe Hernandez, Metro Jobs Program officer, finds Eastside LRT Constructors "goes beyond its obligation to the Metro Jobs Program."

As evidence of the contractor's commitment, Hernandez points to the 150 Eastside project community members currently in training, many of whom are receiving financial assistance.

In addition, he cites the approximately 80 members of the Eastside project community who have been placed in jobs outside the project.

“For people with no job experience, we are providing access to training in interview skills, life skills and trade skills, so that they will be ready to enter the work force,” Hernandez adds.

The Mexican American Opportunity Foundation’s mission is to provide for the socio-economic betterment of the greater Latino community of California.