

[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](#)

Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357

[Contact myMetro.net](#)

Touring the Eastside Extension tunnel project on Tuesday were, from left, CEO Roger Snoble, FTA Regional Administrator Leslie Rogers, U.S. Transportation Secretary Mary Peters, an Eastside construction worker, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and LA City Councilwoman Wendy Greuel.



Photos by Juan Ocampo

U.S. Transportation Secretary Tours Eastside Extension Project

- Mayor uses occasion to lobby for Wilshire subway extension

By DAVE SOTERO

(Feb. 28, 2007) U.S. Transportation Secretary Mary Peters toured Metro's tunneling construction project at First and Boyle on the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, Tuesday.

The tour with media in tow was arranged by City Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, and included CEO Roger Snoble, FTA Regional Administrator Leslie Rogers, Construction Chief Rick Thorpe and Executive Officer Dennis Mori, as well as LA City Councilwoman Wendy Greuel and others.

Villaraigosa sought to provide Peters with a

firsthand view of Metro's safe, successful tunneling construction efforts. Eastside Extension builders have set a record for no lost-time injuries during more than one million work-hours spent on the job since July 2004.

The tour also served as a springboard for the Mayor's goal of ultimately extending the Metro Purple Line to Santa Monica with the help of federal matching funds. Villaraigosa said the sizable cost for subway extension will require a sizable match contribution from the federal government.



Secretary Peters and Councilwoman Greuel join Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa for a news conference at the Wilshire/Western Metro Rail station.

Following their tour, the delegation traveled to Union Station to board a subway train to Wilshire/Western, where the Mayor and Secretary conducted a news conference to discuss the importance of transit solutions within Los Angeles County and the desire to work together to leverage local, state and federal transportation dollars to relieve regional congestion.

Villaraigosa said the Wilshire Corridor was one of the most congested regions of Los Angeles County, and could benefit from the subway extension. He said it was one project of many that could benefit from Prop 1B Infrastructure Bond funds approved by California voters last November.

Peters said that, while she could not "prejudice the process" by promising federal funds for any specific project, she agreed with the Mayor that such a project could do much to help improve regional mobility.