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

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[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](#)

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

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## Metro Board has Full Schedule of Key Meetings in June

- FY 2008 budget will be top concern, but committee agendas include some 50 items

### IN THIS REPORT:

<a href="#">Item 5, FY 2008 "Mini Call"</a>	<a href="#">Item 7, SCRRA Funding</a>	<a href="#">Item 9, I-710 Corridor</a>
<a href="#">Item 11, Westside Subway Extension</a>	<a href="#">Item 12, Light Rail Regional Connector</a>	<a href="#">Item 20, FY 2008 Budget</a>
<a href="#">Item 26, Sheriff's Contract</a>	<a href="#">Item 28, Rail Advertising</a>	<a href="#">Item 29, Bus Advertising</a>
<a href="#">Item 38, Chinatown Station Repairs</a>	<a href="#">Item 42, 50 Light Rail Cars</a>	<a href="#">Item 48, Orange Line Cameras</a>

(June 12, 2007) Members of the Metro Board have a full schedule of key meetings in June, including a budget workshop, a public hearing and an expected vote on the proposed \$3.121 billion FY 2008 budget.

The Board's five committees are set to consider a total of some 50 proposals and reports. These include such items as a study of tunneling on the Westside, a regional rail connector through downtown LA, an extension of the Sheriff's security contract, the purchase of 50 light-rail cars and new surveillance cameras for the Metro Orange Line.

The Board's budget workshop is scheduled Wednesday, to be followed on June 20 by a hearing to take public comment on the budget. A decision is expected at the full Board meeting, June 28.

Among the motions of interest on committee agendas this month are these dozen items:

### June Committee Meetings

**Wednesday, June 13** > Special Board Meeting – Budget Workshop

**Wednesday, June 20** >

12 noon – Planning and Programming

2:30 p.m. – Finance and Budget

2:30 p.m. – Public Hearing, FY 2008 Budget

**Thursday, June 21** >

9 a.m. – Executive Management and Audit;

10:30 a.m. – Construction

12 noon – Operations

**Thursday, June 28** > 9:30 a.m. – Full Board Meeting

**Item 5, FY 2008 'Mini Call'.** The Planning and Programming Committee will consider a request to program \$14 million in Proposition A Incentive Reserve funds for a FY 2008 "Mini Call" that would provide funding for local transit operators to buy bus and dial-a-ride vehicles. The funds would allow 11 local operators to buy a total of 65 buses and 24 local operators to buy a total of 154 dial-a-ride vehicles.

**Item 7, SCRRA Funding.** The Planning and Programming Committee will consider a proposal to provide \$48.1 million in Proposition C 10% local sales tax funding to the Southern California Regional Rail Authority for Metrolink operations and to reprogram \$4.9 million in Prop C 10% funds for Metrolink capital projects.

**Item 9, I-710 Corridor EIR/EIS.** In June 2006, the Board adopted a

Locally Preferred Strategy for the I-710 that would improve the safety, mobility and movement of freight from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to SR 60. The plan included 10 mixed-flow lanes, 4 exclusive truck lanes, and interchange and roadway improvements.

The Planning and Programming Committee will consider a motion to award a \$22.7 million contract for preparation of an EIR/EIS and engineering progress report for the project, along with an outreach consultant contract to support the community effort.

**Item 11, Westside Subway Extension.** In October 2005, an APTA panel of experts prepared a report for the Board which concluded that extending the subway by tunneling through the Westside "could be undertaken at no greater risk than other subway systems in the U.S." In June 2006, the Board directed the staff to carry out a study of a possible subway extension.

The Planning and Programming Committee will consider awarding a \$3.7 million contract for a study of various alternatives, assessment of tunnel feasibility and conceptual engineering, along with funds for other professional services and contingencies.

**Item 12, Light Rail Regional Connector.** Metro patrons who want to make the connection between the Blue Line and the Gold Line must take the subway to bridge the 1.85-mile gap between Union Station and the 7th and Metro station.

The Planning and Programming Committee will consider a motion to award some \$2.5 million in contracts to study the feasibility of a Regional Connector, which might be built as a subway, at-grade or aerial connection to link Union Station and the 7th and Metro station.

**Item 20, FY 2008 Budget.** CEO Roger Snoble has proposed a \$3.121 billion budget for FY 2008. The Finance and Budget Committee will conduct a public hearing on the budget and will consider whether to recommend its adoption by the full Board.

The motion before the committee includes approving a budget for new capital projects, approving salaries and benefits for union and non-contract employees, an annual inflationary increase to the non-contract employee salary ranges, the safety and security budget, and an amendment to the budget to add eight employees and \$1 million for implementation of TAP operations.

**Item 26, Sheriff's Contract.** The Executive Management and Audit Committee will consider a motion to fund the Sheriff's Transit Services Bureau (TSB) at a cost of \$62.5 million for the final year of a five-year agreement. Metro has contracted exclusively with the LA County Sheriff's Department for security services since 2003. (myMetro.net June 5: [CEO Proposes \\$3.121 Billion Metro Budget for FY 2007-08](#))

Under a contract for law enforcement services with the Sheriff's Department, TSB provides nearly 400 sworn deputies, including motorcycle officers, to provide security on Metro Bus and Rail lines, and almost 100 security assistants who act as fare inspectors on Metro Rail lines.

**Item 28, Rail Advertising.** The Executive Management and Audit Committee will consider awarding a five-year contract to CBS Outdoor Group that would permit advertising on Metro Rail cars and in subway stations. Metro would realize \$11.6 million in revenue from the contract.

The contract would permit interior and exterior ads on rail cars, including “wraps.” It also would permit “prominence displays” in subway stations and in back-lit cases in rail stations.

**Item 29, Bus Advertising.** CBS Outdoor Group also would be awarded a five-year contract to place advertising on Metro Buses, under a proposal to be considered by the Executive Management and Audit Committee. Metro would realize \$122.6 million in revenue from that contract.

The contract would include interior and exterior ads on buses, enhanced ads on the rear of the vehicles and exterior “wrap” ads.

**Item 38, Chinatown Station Repairs.** The Construction Committee will consider a motion authorizing the CEO to award a \$500,000 contract to Brutoco Engineering & Construction for design and repair of three cracked concrete “shear keys” at the Metro Gold Line Chinatown station.

The concrete shear keys, part of the support system for the above-ground station, help prevent movement during an earthquake. Temporary netting was placed beneath the aerial structure to catch falling concrete. To determine the cause of the cracking, broken concrete will be removed to verify the size and location of reinforcing steel bars prior to the repairs.

Repairs are needed to reduce further damage to the station and to restore full structural integrity of the guideway in the event of a major earthquake.

**Item 42, 50 Light Rail Cars.** The Operations Committee will consider a motion to budget \$174.5 million to purchase 50 light rail cars for operation on the Exposition Line and the Metro Blue Line.

Sixteen of the cars would be earmarked for the Expo Line. The remaining 34, which would be operated on the Blue Line, would replace part of the P865 Nippon Sharyo cars which have exceeded 20 years’ service.

**Item 48, Orange Line Cameras.** The Operations Committee will consider a motion to award a \$200,293 contract for 140 new pan/tilt/zoom surveillance cameras for placement at Metro Orange Line stations. The new cameras will replace less capable cameras now installed at the stations.

When the project is complete, observers in the Rail Operations Center and the Bus Control Center will be able to control the cameras’ pan, tilt and zoom functions to view all areas of a station. The stations’ current cameras will be removed and reused in other locations, such as at the openings of all Metro Red Line elevators.