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CEO Roger Snoble; Mike Cannell, Metro Rail general manager; and Dennis Mori, Eastside Extension project manager; rode along with Congresswoman Roybal-Allard in the new Breda rail car. Roybal-Allard, who serves on the House's Homeland Security Subcommittee, questioned Metro staff on transit security issues during her visit last Friday.



Photos by Ned Racine

## Congresswoman Takes to the Rails Behind Controls of New Breda Car

- Roybal-Allard Visit Includes Demonstration by K-9 Unit

By NED RACINE

(Aug. 29, 2007) Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard received a hands-on demonstration of how her subcommittee's appropriations are spent as she drove one of Metro's new Ansaldo Breda 2550 rail cars last Friday.



Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard prepares to drive the new Ansaldo Breda 2550 rail car at the Metro Gold Line Mid-Way maintenance yard.

Transportation manager, Roybal-Allard drove one of the new Ansaldo Breda rail cars on the maintenance yard track.

Roybal-Allard, who sits on the House's Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, traveled to the Metro Gold Line Mid-Way maintenance yard to see where the Breda rail cars would be maintained.

After instruction from Suresh Shrivastava, Rail Fleet Services manager, and Davide Puglisi, Rail

The 2550 cars will be used on the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, which runs through part of Roybal-Allard's 34th Congressional district.

"A lot of federal money goes into these projects, and I like to see first hand how the federal money is being used," Roybal-Allard said.

Roybal-Allard, who also serves on the House's Homeland Security Subcommittee, discussed with Sheriff's Deputy Richard Faulk how the Transit Services Bureau's (TSB's) K-9 units search for suspicious items.

Sheriff's Deputy Kyle Hayden lead Xxzylo, a two-year-old Vizsla, through a demonstration of such a search.

Accompanying Roybal-Allard were CEO Roger Snoble; Mike Cannell, Metro Rail general manager; Dennis Mori, Eastside Extension project manager and TSB Commander Dan Finkelstein.

"One of the things I've been very pleased about with MTA and the Eastside Extension is that not only is it being built on time and within the budget but the fact that MTA has outreached to the community when it has needed to in order to include them in the project," Roybal-Allard said. "But so far most of the issues that were raised with regards to the Eastside have been successfully addressed."