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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](#)

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Instant Landmark: Metro San Gabriel Valley opens eco-friendly headquarters

(Jan. 29, 2008) A rainy day kept the guests of Metro San Gabriel Valley's eco-headquarters grand opening inside, but that didn't stop the cascade of certificates, awards, congratulations, media and official praise that accompanied the ribbon and cake cutting festivities Jan. 25. The \$13-million, three-story, 45,500-square-foot building was built to meet LEED Silver Certified environmental standards. The facility surpasses the state's standards for energy use and water consumption and consumes 33 percent less electricity than a conventional structure.

Photos by Juan Ocampo



From left, El Monte Mayor Ernie Gutierrez, Board member John Fasana, Board Chair Pam O'Connor, Metro San Gabriel Valley General Manager Jack Gabig and CEO Roger Snoble cut the official cake.



Chief Operating Officer Carolyn Flowers accepts the congressional recognition certificate awarded to the project by U.S. Congresswoman Hilda Solis.



It's easy being green: Tim Lindholm, director of capital projects facilities operations, and project manager John Jaramillo lead team effort to take Metro green.



Framed in natural light, guests enter lobby, above. At right, Board Chair Pam O'Connor with artist Raoul De la Sota, at installation site of de la Sota's work, *Forward to the Past*, a 20-foot tall acrylic painting. Below, officials make the opening official at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



From left, Carolyn Flowers, Mayor Ernie Gutierrez, John Fasana, San Gabriel Governance Council Chairwoman Rosie Vasquez, Pam O'Connor, Jack Gabig, U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer representative Gina Semenza and CEO Roger Snoble.

--from Gayle Anderson