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Metro Appoints New DEO in Operations Service Planning and Development

(March 5, 2008) Chief Operations Officer Carolyn Flowers appointed Conan Cheung, March 4, to the position of Deputy Executive Officer, Operations Service Planning and Development.

Cheung comes to the agency by way of the Metropolitan Transit System in San Diego where he was Director of Planning and Scheduling, and Service Planning Manager.

Cheung is familiar with Los Angeles, having earned a BA from UCLA in Urban and Regional Planning and an MA from USC in Public Administration and Urban Planning. He's worked in transit for 11 years.

Metro Partners with UCLA's Center for Neighborhood Knowledge

(March 5, 2008) In a web-based project called "Neighborhood Knowledge California," Metro and UCLA are working together to build knowledge about Los Angeles neighborhoods that only the residents who live there could know.

Using a custom geographic information system mapping program, Metro's Rufina Juarez, transportation planning manager, and UCLA's Neal Richman have taught neighborhood residents how to add their unique knowledge into an interactive database.

The program is meant to build an information center so planners and laypeople alike can make better informed decisions about how to develop urban areas. Juarez said the program gives residents an opportunity to make their specialized regional knowledge useful to all.

To see the project, visit: www.NKCA.ucla.edu

1st Street Bridge Over the Los Angeles River Re-Opened

(March 5, 2008) Metro re-opened the 1st Street Bridge to two-way traffic, Feb. 29, after a month of construction for the Gold Line Eastside Extension. Re-opening of one lane of traffic each direction will bring some normalcy back to a well-used thoroughfare in East Los Angeles.

Construction efforts on the bridge were quickened by the full bridge closure and allowed the agency to move faster – and impact the community less.

Train testing on the new track is scheduled to begin in October.

