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## Board Requests More Information on Areas Affected by Service Changes

 Board directs CEO to present crime, gang information at April meeting

### By NED RACINE, Editor

(April 1, 2008) At its March 27 meeting, the Metro Board requested more details from a report describing the service changes during 2007 and those planned for 2008 and 2009, asking Metro staff to appear at the April 24 meeting with crime and gang statistics for the areas slated for service reductions.

The report resulted from a motion by Director Yvonne Burke at the Feb. 21 Operations Committee meeting. Burke asked for information on the extent of the suggested service changes, including the changes effect on the existing Consent Decree.

At the March 27 meeting, the Board approved a motion directing Metro staff to provide additional information, including data for the areas surrounding proposed bus service reductions and line eliminations.

The requested information would include violent crime statistics (including differences by time of day), as well as noting high crime areas, gang reduction zones, gang injunction areas and clear sites.

The approved motion asked Metro staff to present alternatives to canceling OWL (all-night) service and service segments that leave areas of the region uncovered by transit.

In other Board actions, it approved a plan to commemorate Rosa Parks Human Rights Day on an annual basis.

The Board also designated \$54.4 million to aid Caltrans in addressing a \$153.1 million shortfall for highway construction projects, as well as including the Los Angeles International Airport FlyAway bus service into the EZ transit pass program.

The profile of the eastern edge of the Los Angeles River will likely change as the Board authorized the CEO to enter into a joint agreement to develop 20.2 acres of the Taylor Yard with residential and retail structures. The Board also authorized the CEO to purchase 340 steel tires for an amount not to exceed \$459,200.

The meeting was adjoined in honor of Thom Pelk, Division 2 Crossroads Depot transportation manager, who lost his battle with leukemia on March 17.

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