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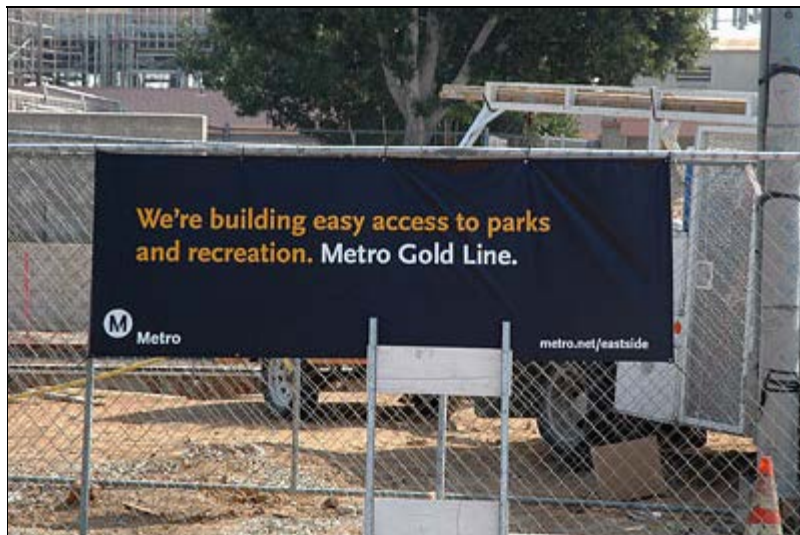
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One of more than 40 banners hung along the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension light rail route, this banner faces Indiana Street. In the background is the Ramona Opportunity High School. The Indiana station will be to the left.

Photos by Ned Racine

Banners Inform Neighbors Metro Gold Line East Extension Is Coming

By NED RACINE, Editor

(April 11, 2008) With each station canopy erected, the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension moves closer to its late 2009 opening. To generate excitement for the project's approach, Regional Community Relations has begun a banner campaign along its route.

The project team has installed more than 40 banners at strategic locations along the light rail project, particularly in Little Tokyo/Arts District, Boyle Heights, and East L.A. The banners carry 15 messages in English, Spanish, and Japanese.

Messages on the 3-by-7-foot banners include:

- We're building opportunities.
- We're building easy access to parks and recreation.
- We're building a perfect start to family weekends.

After three and one-half years of construction, the six-mile-long



project is 78 percent complete and boasts almost three million work hours without an accident requiring a single day away from work.

The Eastside Extension banners were hung near the eight new stations, such as this future underground station at First and Soto streets.

The \$899 million Eastside Extension features eight new stations (two underground) and will run between Union Station in downtown Los Angeles via the Little Tokyo/Arts District and Boyle Heights to Atlantic/Pomona boulevards in East Los Angeles.