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Photos by Juan Ocampo



East Valley Transportation Manager Gary Spivack, the Mummy, Board member and Glendale City Councilman Ara Najarian, Los Angeles City Councilman Tom LaBonge, Shrek, and Los Angeles City Councilwoman Wendy Greuel get on board Metro to launch Bike to Work Week at Universal City Station on Monday.

Metro Launches Bike to Work Week at Universal City Station

- Alternative transit proponents Shrek and the Mummy ride Metro Rapid and bike to work

By JOSÉ UBALDO

(May 14, 2008) The 14th annual celebration of Bike to Work Week kicked off with a big, really big, smile, May 12, at the Metro Red Line Universal City station where Shrek and the Mummy, the characters from Universal Studios Hollywood took charge of the celebrity bike pit stop.



Shrek and the Mummy give a bike a tune-up at the celebrity pit stop. Los Angeles City Councilwoman Wendy Greuel and Metro Board Member Ara Najarian lend a helping hand.

Metro Board member and City of Glendale Council member Ara Najarian joined City of Los Angeles Council Members Wendy Greuel and Tom LaBonge in welcoming the Universal Studios Hollywood characters in kicking off the week-long bicycle festivities.

On Thursday, Metro is offering a chance to win a folding bike from REI to those who register in advance online at www.metro.net/biketowork and pledge to be part of the solution to reduce traffic by pedaling to work, school, or other destinations on Bike to Work Day.

In addition, on Thursday, May 15, Metro will offer free rides to bicyclists on Metro buses and trains throughout Los Angeles County.



Transportation Planning Manager and Bike to Work Week coordinator Paula Carvajal, with Events Planning coordinator Esther Carlstone, hands out 'goody bags' at the busy information

booth. A number of media outlets and nearly 50 bicyclists attend the festivities. Some 2,600 bicyclists are expected to participate in Bike to Work Day on Thursday, when Metro and local organizations co-host some 35 bike pit stops throughout the county for bicyclists to stop by for refreshments and free giveaways.

Metro also is supporting a series of events in conjunction with Bike to Work Week. The fifth annual interfaith Blessing of the Bicycles at the Good Samaritan Hospital was held on May 13. Next up: the Los Angeles River Ride on Sunday, June 8, sponsored by the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition.

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