


[Home](#)
[CEO Hotline](#)
[Viewpoint](#)
[Classified Ads](#)
[Archives](#)
[Metro.net \(web\)](#)

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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Metro Contributes to Award-winning Santa Monica Boulevard Transit Parkway Project

(June 12, 2008) The City of Los Angeles received a "Tranny" award from the California Transportation Foundation for its reconstruction of Santa Monica Boulevard on June 4 in Sacramento. One major contributor to the project, however, was missing.

Though Metro wasn't named in the award, the agency was responsible for shepherding the three-and-a-half year project through the necessary hoops to make the reconstruction possible.

"We really did develop the funding plan and were the lead on all the planning efforts," said Alan Patashnick, director of Countywide Planning & Development, and the final project manager for planning the project, which opened in January 2007.

Patashnick noted that Metro lead the project from "Day 1" to the first day of construction.

Metro contributed \$57 million to the project, which reconstructed Santa Monica Boulevard between the I-405 (San Diego Freeway) and the City of Beverly Hills. Metro and its consultants also created the state and federal environmental documents and secured approval for them.

Harris & Associates and Excel Paving were also presented with the award for their work in design and the actual construction, respectively.

Metro was explicitly nominated under several categories for this year's Tranny Awards. The Urban Congestion Relief Changeable Message Sign that shows drivers current drive times was chosen as one of three projects under the "Traffic Operations" category.

A "Community Awareness" nomination bestowed on Metro Art Docents honoring the program that familiarizes riders with the Metro system by showing it to them.



Alan Patashnick, director of Countywide Planning & Development, was Planning's final project manager on the Santa Monica Boulevard Transit Parkway Project.