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<u>Home</u> <u>CEO Hotline</u>

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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Employees Walk to Raise Money to Battle Diabetes

An estimated 150 Metro employees walk downtown route

By NED RACINE, Editor

(Oct. 28, 2008) Who says nobody walks in L.A.? An estimated 150 Metro employees spent a bright Sunday morning, Oct. 26, walking to raise money and awareness in the battle against diabetes.

Wearing their bright yellow T-shirts (featuring a large white "M" on a circle of blue), the walkers began at the south lawn of Los Angeles City Hall, walked around the Disney Concert Hall and then back to City Hall.

The "Step Out" walk was the American Diabetes Association's inaugural walk in Los Angeles, so the association must believe people *do* walk in Los Angeles. Walking with the Metro employees were family and friends, some being pushed and some being carried.

The two-mile walk raised \$3,500 from the bus and rail divisions, as well as from the Gateway Lunch Walker group.

"With the moral support of our executive staff and the UTU General Chairman, we came together as a group and represented the agency very well," said Duane Martin, director of Rail Transportation, Operations.

The <u>American Diabetes Association</u> estimates there are almost 24 million children and adults in the United States, or 7.8 percent of the population, who have diabetes. The organization estimates almost six million

Americans are unaware they have the disease. The organization's website offers <u>tips</u> on recognizing the symptoms of diabetes.

| Home | Phone Directory | Forms Online | FIS Online