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National real estate developers and city and county officials celebrate a "Topping Off" ceremony for the "1600 Vine" joint development atop the Metro Rail Hollywood/Vine Station. *Photos: Dave Sotero*

Officials hold topping off ceremony for '1600 Vine' residential and retail complex atop Hollywood/Vine Station

- \$600 million development one of the crown jewels of Metro's Joint Development Program

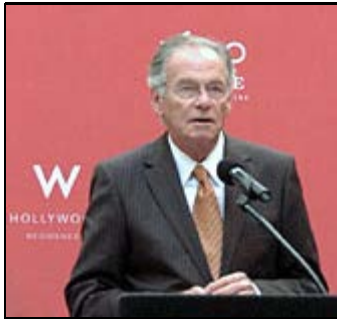
BY DAVE SOTERO

(Dec. 4, 2008) Today Metro joined national real estate developers and city and county officials to celebrate a "Topping Off" ceremony for the "1600 Vine" joint development, one of the largest, most ambitious mixed-use, transit-oriented development projects now under construction in Los Angeles.



On top of 'W': from left, Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti, television personality Jimmy Kimmel, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, and '1600 Vine' developers from Legacy Partners.
Photo: Gayle Anderson

The \$600 million development project called 1600 Vine will include a new 305-room W Hotel, 143 W residences, 375 luxury apartments (including 78 affordable units), about 50,000 square feet of retail space and transit plaza improvements at the Hollywood/Vine Metro Red Line Station.



Roger Moliere, above, praises transit housing. Below, late night television talk show host Jimmy Kimmel, who tapes his show nearby, took on the emcee duties.



Below, acrobats' daredevil descent down the banners of the 15-story building 'top off' the ceremony.

The Metro station is located at the northeastern corner of the project site.

The star-studded event was emceed by entertainment personality Jimmy Kimmel and included acrobats who descended from the top floor of the building on ropes.

The project is scheduled for completion in Fall 2009 and is one of the most prominent within Metro's Joint Development Program. The program works closely with public and private partners to encourage high-quality, transit-oriented development around Metro station sites and along transit corridors. Its goal is to help reduce auto trips and relieve congestion through transit-linked development. Over the last 15 years, Metro has been involved in billions of dollars in joint development projects and it is continuing to expand the program.

Roger Moliere, Chief of Real Property Planning & Development, represented Metro at the event. "This project's dynamic architecture and mixture of first-class hotel, residential and retail uses directly atop a Metro Red Line station makes the Hollywood & Vine project one of the crown jewels of Metro's Joint Development Program," Moliere said. "We look forward to adding Hollywood & Vine to Metro's long list of successful mixed-use, joint developments within Los Angeles County."

The project team includes Gatehouse Capital



Corporation, Legacy Partners. The development is a result of years of planning, negotiation and collaboration with Metro, Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles (CRA/LA), Los Angeles City Council and the Hollywood community.

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