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The Dodger Stadium Express is funded by a \$300,000 grant from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee, here celebrated by, from left, Los Angeles City Councilman Eric Garcetti, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Dodger Owner and Chairman Frank McCourt, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich, Board Chairman Ara Najarian and Los Angeles City Councilman Ed Reyes. *Photo by Luis Inzunza*.

Newly Launched Dodger Stadium Express Begins Moving Baseball Fans April 1

- Online at metro.net: http://www.metro.net/around/dodger-stadium-express/
- Just in time for Northrop Grumman Family Night at Dodger Stadium

By Laura Kloth Staff Writer

(March 23, 2010) Hoping to get more baseball fans to ditch their cars when they go to a game, CEO Art Leahy teamed up with Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board Member Michael Antonovich Monday to introduce Metro's Dodger Stadium Express, a convenient new bus service that will provide a link from Union Station to the stadium.

A beaming Antonovich said he hoped the pilot program would become permanent, and noted that he spent about a decade trying to get service funded. Antonovich said he was elated to learn it would be paid for with a \$300,000 grant from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) where he serves as a member.

Antonovich thanked the MSRC saying he hoped the new service would urge baseball fans to "think blue and act green."

Metro Board Chair and Glendale Mayor Ara Najarian, who officiated the event, said, "This is a great service and we hope fans from all over the region will take advantage of this link from Union Station to Dodger Stadium to enjoy the ride and the game."



Dodger fan CEO Art Leahy meets up with former Dodger Ron Cey for a tour of the Dodger Stadium Express bus on display at the press event. Cey played for the Dodgers from 1971 to 1982.

Photo by Luis Inzunza.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said providing public transportation to the stadium would help clean the air and alleviate the gridlock around the stadium on game days. "We're going to have to get out of that automobile once in a while and why not do it going to a ball game?" the mayor said. He applauded Metro's ongoing "greening" efforts noting that the agency now has the largest clean air bus fleet in the world.

Beginning with pre-season games April 1, baseball fans will be able to use their Dodgers game ticket to ride the Dodger Stadium Express to and from Union Station. The service leaves Union Station every 10 minutes, starting 90 minutes before game time for all home games.

Leahy said he planned to use the new service on Opening Day April 13, encouraging fans to perform their own "double play" by using public transit to get to Union Station, and, then, the new Dodger Express service to get to the stadium.

Dodger Owner and Chairman Frank McCourt thanked everyone involved calling it a "great first step" toward creating alternatives to gridlock, and he pledged his ongoing support, specifically in helping Metro market the service to create "robust public transit." Others who spoke and applauded the service included LA City Council President Eric Garcetti and Councilman Ed Reyes.



Click here or on image for mail-in ticket form (PDF)

The announcement will also be welcome news to credit union members who plan to attend Northrop Grumman Family Night at Dodger Stadium on May 1 at 7:10 p.m.

The discounted \$25 "All You Can Eat" tickets will pay for a seat in the right field pavilion and include an endless supply of hot dogs, peanuts, pop corn and soda.

Tickets for Northrop Grumman Family Night at Dodger Stadium can be purchased at the credit union offices at Gateway headquarters, or by mail using the <u>form on the back of the Dodger Night flyer</u>.

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