



February 8, 2002

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MEDIA ADVISORY

MTA TO HELP CITY OF WHITTIER DEDICATE FUTURE HOME OF 5-MILE BIKE PATH THAT WILL PASS BY NUMEROUS MAJOR DESTINATIONS

WHAT: MTA Board members and Whittier officials will participate in groundbreaking ceremonies for the Whittier Greenway Trail, a 5.2-mile bike and pedestrian path primarily funded by an MTA grant. The \$12.9 million project, of which \$8.5 million was provided by MTA, is set to open in three years along an abandoned rail right-of-way and will provide bike access to jobs, hospitals and schools. The trail also will cross areas served by regional bus systems, including MTA lines, and link up with the San Gabriel River Bike Path while traversing such popular spots as Whittier Transit Center, 17 elementary, middle and high schools, Whittier College, Guirado Park, JG Whittier Park and Whittier Market Place. Other destinations along the way include the Civic Center, the Quad Shopping Center, Whittwood Mall, Whittier Senior Center, Kaiser and Presbyterian Inter-Community Hospital. Since 1992, MTA has provided \$82 million in funding for 108 bikeway projects totaling 200 miles of bike paths and bike lanes in Los Angeles County.

WHEN: Tomorrow morning, 10 a.m., Saturday, February 9

WHERE: Palm Park
5703 Palm Avenue (Thomas Guide 677-A4)

WHO: MTA Board Chairman John Fasana, Duarte City Councilman
MTA Board Director Beatrice Proo, Pico Rivera Councilwoman
Whittier Mayor Allan Zolnekoff
Whittier Mayor Pro Tem Dave Butler
Whittier City Councilman Bob Henderson
Whittier City Councilman Owen Newcomer
Whittier City Councilman Greg Nordbak

VISUALS: Pulling of spike from railroad tracks; tossing of train hats into audience; wearing of bicycle helmets; presentation of plaques.

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