



NEWS

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Rail car will be used for testing L.A. to Pasadena Metro Gold Line
**Train Car Weighing 98,000 Pounds To Be Unloaded From
Giant Truck in South Pasadena Early Monday Morning**

WHAT: A major milestone for the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Gold line will be reached with the delivery before dawn of a new rail car that will be used for testing the track on the new 13.7 mile rail line that is now under construction and which MTA plans to begin operating in summer 2003. The rail car, costing \$2.3 million, weighs 98,000 pounds and is 89 feet long so unloading it is a Herculean task. A giant truck will deliver the train car to a railroad siding at 1 a.m. and then use a winch to move it to the railroad tracks. The process will take several hours. MTA and Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Construction Authority officials will be on hand to brief reporters.

WHEN: Monday morning, Aug. 19, 2002 -- unloading is scheduled to begin at 1 a.m. It may take up to four hours to complete.

WHERE: Monterey Road and Pasadena Avenue in South Pasadena

BACKGROUND:

This is one of six rail cars that will be used during the next year to test various track segments on the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Gold Line that spans 13.7 miles and will link Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles and Sierra Madre Villa in East Pasadena via Chinatown, Highland Park, South Pasadena, and Pasadena. The \$725.5 million project is being built by the Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Gold Line Construction Authority and will be operated by MTA. The Metro Gold Line will join two light rail lines and a subway that crisscross Los Angeles County from downtown Los Angeles to Long Beach to Redondo Beach, Universal City and North Hollywood. The Metro Rail system today carries approximately 250,000 boarding passengers on an average weekday. The Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Gold Line is expected to carry an additional 30,000 or more riders a day when it opens in summer 2003 and will help alleviate traffic congestion on the Pasadena Freeway (1-110) and Foothill Freeway (1-210). An historical side note: The old Pacific Electric Railway Short Line began serving Pasadena 100 years ago. The line was converted to buses in 1951.

NOTE: City News Service will provide videotape Monday for stations who can't attend.

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