



March 1, 2005

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Construction Moves Forward With Underground Utility Survey, Soil Grouting

Construction of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension light rail project continues with preparation for the excavation of the 1.8-mile tunnel segment and two underground stations along First Street in Boyle Heights. The project, with a budget of \$898 million, is expected to be open to the public by late 2009.

Chemical Grouting Soil Stabilization

Drilling and grouting on First Street, between Fresno and Concord Streets, has begun as part of the comprehensive preparatory work being carried out prior to tunneling to provide improved ground conditions in the vicinity of the east portal.

The work will take place Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the next week. Holes are drilled into the street surface to insert plastic grout tubes. The grouting will be injected by an array of thin tubes, pipes and valves. Chemicals are non-toxic and present no public health risk. The operation is relatively quiet.

The activities will require traffic lane closures as traffic is diverted around the work. The area will be fenced off and parking on First Street will not be allowed on this zone. However, access to this area will be maintained at all times.

When completed in late 2009 the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension will add six miles of rail, eight stations to the regional Metro Rail system that crisscrosses Los Angeles County.

For information on Eastside construction activity, call Metro Community Relations at (213) 922-9560.

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