

November 27, 2006

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Removal of Tunnel Boring Machines to Cause Sporadic Closure of First Street in Boyle Heights

For the next three months, First Street, between Fresno and Lorena streets, will close sporadically while the tunnel boring machines used in the construction of the twin tunnels for the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, are being dismantled and extracted from the East Portal. Work will be done randomly on any weekday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

These activities will require large crane operations on the north side of First Street. The first tunneling machines to be removed from the underground box of the East Portal will be "Lola", which just finished 1.7 mile segment of the eastbound tunnel from First and Boyle streets to First and Lorena streets, two weeks ago.

Residents should expect parking restrictions on the north and south side of First Street between Fresno and Concord. Access to homes and business will be maintained.

The Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, which will feature eight stations (two underground), will span six miles from Union Station in downtown Los Angeles via the Arts District/Little Tokyo and Boyle Heights to Atlantic/Pomona Boulevards in East Los Angeles. It is scheduled to open in late 2009.

Residents who need more information should contact Metro Community Relations at (213) 922-2259.

Metro-205

