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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro seeks community's help to identify next-of-kin for deceased identified through old Chinese grave markers, other headstones and artifacts found during construction of Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension. Remains date from late 1800's to early 1900's

- The public can visit www.metro.net/lacemetery to view and possibly identify next-of-kin through images of discovered artifacts

- [Chinese version \(PDF\)](#)

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is seeking the public's help to identify possible next-of-kin for deceased that have been identified through grave markers and headstones unearthed during construction of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension.

Human skeletal remains and artifacts dating from the late 1800's to early 1900's were discovered in June 2005 as construction crews began work to widen 1st Street adjacent to the Los Angeles County Crematorium in Boyle Heights. Construction was halted immediately and declared an archeological zone. Metro consulted with the project's archeologist to ensure the proper removal and handling of the discoveries.

While most of the discoveries could not be identified, several grave markers and headstones have been unearthed where identification of the deceased has been possible.

Working with the Review Advisory Committee, a citizen's group that advises Metro on the light rail project, Metro formed an Ad-Hoc Sub Committee whose goals are to make recommendations for re-interment, ceremony and memorial. Part of the committee's efforts has also been to help identify possible next-of-kin. A list of names of identified headstones and grave markers is available on the Metro web site at www.metro.net/lacemetery. The public is encouraged to come forward if they are next-of-kin and to submit information online that they think would help determine the ancestral history of the Historic Los Angeles Cemetery next to Evergreen Cemetery in Boyle Heights.

Metro plans to re-inter all of the discoveries and present the community with a fitting ceremony and memorial. The re-interment site and date are to be announced later.

Construction of the six-mile extension of the Metro Gold Line from Union Station in downtown Los Angeles to East Los Angeles began in 2004 and is set for completion in 2009.

For additional Metro information, visit WWW.METRO.NET. To plan public transit trips in Los Angeles County, visit the Trip Planner online or call 1-800-COMMUTE.

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