

January 20, 2009

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Metro Keeps 'Safety's First' Campaign Moving Forward to Educate Residents in Eastside Communities on How To Be Safe Around Trains

- 85,000 Flyers Will Be Delivered Door-to-Door

Metro this week began a second round of visits to public and private schools in the communities in and around the soon to open Metro Gold Line to East Los Angeles light rail alignment as part of the agency's Safety's 1st campaign, "Look, Listen and Stay Alive", to educate Eastside residents on how to be safe around the light rail trains when service begins this summer.

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.

"Metro's Safety's 1st program is critical for the safety of our residents. Everybody in the community should be trained on how to be safe around trains now that Metro Rail is coming to the streets of Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles," says Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board member Gloria Molina.

Metro Community Relations staff will host 10 safety training presentations during their visit to five local libraries, three main hospitals and community and religious centers during March and April. Also 60 schools from Kindergarten to 12 grade in communities such as Little Tokyo, Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles and Montebello have received safety training within the service area to take personal responsibility and be aware of their own safety when riding Metro's 2,500 buses and 73 miles of Metro Rail throughout Los Angeles county.

The main message of the safety training presentations will be "Look, Listen and Stay Alive" -how to be safe around trains. Metro staff also will soon begin delivering door-to-door to businesses and residences 85,000 flyers with his safety message.

The main message for all residents is:

- Always be prepared for what may be coming from around the corner.
- Always look both ways before crossing any street
- Never run to catch a bus or a train
- Never cross the streets except in designated crosswalks
- Never walk, play near or on rail tracks
- Obey all the traffic signals and warning signs
- Never go around lowered rail gates
- Watch for buses and trains from both directions

Residents or organizations who need to request information on how to get safety training should contact Metro Community Relations, Transit Education Program at (213) 922-4050 or e-mail pattersond@metro.net.

Metro-005

Editors Note: "Metro" should be used when referring to this agency.