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Metro to Deploy Ambassadors at Several Intersections to Help Eastside Community Become Familiar with New Light Rail Train Cars

Metro will deploy 12 rail safety ambassadors on Monday, March 30, at seven Eastside intersections along the new six-mile Metro Gold Line to East Los Angeles alignment to help motorists become familiar with the new light rail train traffic and to educate pedestrians on how to be safe around trains during this early testing period until the grand opening this summer and for three months after that.

The ambassadors will be at Alameda/Temple, First/Alameda, First/Mission, First/Lorena, First/Indiana, Indiana/Third and Third/Mednik from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday to Friday and during the weekends from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, which will feature eight stations (two underground) will run from Union Station in downtown Los Angeles via the Little Tokyo/Arts District and Boyle Heights to Atlantic/Pomona Boulevard in East Los Angeles.

Metro has been intensifying its Safety First campaign, "Look, Listen & Stay Alive," to educate the Eastside community on how to behave around the alignment. Motorists and pedestrians have been asked to pay attention to all warning devices and train crossings when walking, biking or driving.

During April, Metro is planning safety awareness sessions for Eastside residents on public libraries around the Metro Gold Line alignment in Little Tokyo, Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles. Three main hospitals and religious and community centers also will be visited.

- Stevenson Public Library, 803 Spence street, Tuesday, Saturday, April 4, 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Anthony Quinn Library, 3965 East Cesar Chavez avenue, Monday, April 6, 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, April 18, 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Each session will include a presentation of a virtual Metro Gold Line video, information about Metro's rider relief program and a question and answer session. 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 also has distributed a map with the adjustments to new traffic patterns on or around Alameda, First, Indiana and Third streets, where Eastside residents, motorists and pedestrians will experience some changes to the configuration in these areas. The map indicates where crossing from south to north or vice versa can be done, left turns, and parking will be allowed. For a copy of the area map, visit the Metro website at www.metro.net/eastside or contact Community Relations at (213) 922-2259.

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