

**Motion by Director Molina**

Two days ago, Congressman Edward Roybal passed away at the age of 89. His legacy lives in Los Angeles, especially on the Eastside, through many social programs serving youth and seniors, health care centers and services, and the remnants of the dismantled barriers to civil rights. Congressman Roybal led the framing of what we know today as Latino Politics in Los Angeles. He has been a mentor for many of us in public office.

Throughout his tenure, Congressman Roybal remained committed to Latinos, the elderly, the poor, and the physically-challenged. During his three decades of service, he held numerous leadership positions, including serving on the Select Committee on Aging, which led to his trailblazing work on behalf of the elderly. He worked tirelessly to protect the rights of minorities, even after his retirement. His service on the Los Angeles City Council and the United State Congress created programs serving youth and seniors which will last for generations.

In the 1980's he was a leading force behind the creation of the legislation to develop a public transportation system in Los Angeles County. Congressman Roybal clearly understood the significance of transportation in shaping and defining a city. His personal experiences as a Boyle Heights resident and community leader—when the Eastside was dissected by the construction of freeways—left a bitter taste which guided his efforts to develop a sustainable transit system.

Today, we are on the brink of realizing one of Congressman Roybal's transportation dreams. The Eastside Gold Line is under construction and is scheduled to begin operation in 2009. Congressman Roybal's tenacious leadership helped generate this project, and nowhere is his legacy more ingrained than in the heart of the Eastside of Los Angeles.

I, Therefore move that the MTA Board rename the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension "The Edward R. Roybal Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension", in honor of this local icon's revered memory.