



Metro

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CEO Roger Snoble

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U.S. Senate Confirms Richard Capka as New Head of the Federal Highway Administration

The U.S. Senate moved last Friday to confirm the nomination of Richard Capka to serve as the head of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Capka's nomination had been delayed by Senator Max Baucus of Montana, who was pressing the FHWA for the release of money (for a roadway project in Montana) authorized in the surface transportation reauthorization law adopted by Congress last year. Previously, Capka served as deputy administrator of the Federal Highway Administration. In the private sector, Capka was the chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and served 29 years in the Army Corps of Engineers.

SB 1507 - Metro Board Governance Legislation

Last Friday State Senator Bob Margett (R-Arcadia) moved to amend SB 1507 to include language that would delete an outdated section of state law that requires Metro's predecessor agencies (RTD & LACTC) to conduct joint meetings on a regular basis. This change in language means that SB 1507 will be referred back to the Senate Rule Committee for consideration. It is expected that SB 1507 will remain in the Senate Rules Committee beyond the June 2, 2006 deadline for bills to be passed by the house of origin.

Mobility 21 Coalition Meeting Cancelled

The Mobility 21 Coalition meeting scheduled for this Friday, June 2 has been cancelled. We anticipate rescheduling in the near future.

Reserve the Dates/Upcoming Events

FTA Quarterly Review – Wednesday May 31, 2006

The FTA New Starts Projects Quarterly Review meeting is scheduled for Wednesday May 31, 2006 at 10 a. m. in the Metro Gateway Conference Room. Topics include construction reports on the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, Mid-City/Exposition LRT and the Metro Orange line as well as an overview of the 2500 Rail Vehicle Program and other issues.

State Route 138 Ceremony – Friday June 2, 2006

Caltrans has scheduled a State Route 138 Ceremony for 10:30 a.m on Friday June 2, 2006 at the Crystallaire Country Club located at 15701 Boca Raton Avenue in Llano. This project widened the highway from two to four lanes with a median lane and shoulders. Construction began in December 2004 and ended in April 2006. The project was funded with six million dollars in Prop C 25% funds.

Brea Canyon Road Grade Separation Project Groundbreaking - Monday June 5, 2006

The Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority (ACE) is holding a groundbreaking ceremony to commemorate the start of construction on the Brea Canyon Road Grade Separation Project on Monday June 5, 2006 at 10 a.m. at the southwest corner of the Industry Metrolink Station parking lot located at 600 S. Brea Canyon Road in the City of Industry. Metro is a funding partner for ACE. The \$51.7 million Brea Canyon project is part of a \$950 million, multi-year ACE construction effort to improve safety and reduce congestion at 42 grade crossings across the San Gabriel Valley.

Avenue S Grand Opening in Palmdale – Wednesday June 7, 2006

The grand opening of the Avenue S Corridor Improvement Project in Palmdale will take place on Wednesday June 7th at 11am. The event location is on the south east corner of Avenue S and Casa Verde at the west approach of the new bridge.

Archstone Development at Metro Gold Line Del Mar Station – Thursday June 8, 2006

Archstone Apartments is holding an open house celebration of Archstone Del Mar Station, their new transit oriented community, on June 8, 2006 at 10:30am. The development is located at the Metro Gold Line Del Mar Station in Pasadena.

Solar Panel – Friday June 16, 2006

Metro has rescheduled the solar panel event for Friday, June 16 from 9:30 am to

10:30 am at Metro Bus Division 15 located at 11900 Branford Street in Sun Valley. On the one-year anniversary of their installation, Metro will announce that its solar panels at Bus Division 15 and 8 in the San Fernando Valley have saved the agency approximately \$150,000 in electricity costs.

Magic Mountain I-5 Expansion Project Groundbreaking – Friday June 16, 2006

The Magic Mountain I-5 Expansion Project Groundbreaking is scheduled for Friday June 16, 2006 at 11 a. m. in the City of Santa Clarita at the Old Road, just south of Magic Mountain Parkway. This project will reconstruct the freeway interchange by realigning and widening the Old Road and enhancing the overall interchange capacity. The project is funded with \$10.435 Million in Prop C 25% funds to match local development fees of \$19.361 Million.

Valley Transit Improvements Press Event – Wednesday June 21, 2006

Metro will hold a Valley Transit Improvements Press Event on Wednesday, June 21, 2006 from 10 a.m. to 11a.m. at the Van Nuys Metro Orange Line Station Park & Ride lot located at the corner of Van Nuys Boulevard and Aetna just South of Victory Boulevard. Metro will introduce its newest Metro Rapid Line 734 that will run along Sepulveda Boulevard. We will also place high-capacity articulated buses on Metro Rapid Line 761 and 45-foot buses on Metro Rapid Line 750. These improvements all go into effect Sunday, June 25.

Metro Rail Rodeo Celebration – Saturday June 24, 2006

Metro Rail Operations will host a celebration for employees, families and guests on Saturday, June 24, 2006 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m, at Division 20, 320 South Santa Fe Ave., Los Angeles.

Of Note

On this date in 1974, the Board of Directors endorsed Proposition 5 and Proposition A which, for the first time ever, would allow a portion of the motor vehicle/fuel tax to be used for public transit.

Also on this date in 1885, Los Angeles Second Street Cable Railroad Company began construction and later opened the city's first cable car line. Cable car railway was short lived in Los Angeles, closing just four years later in 1889 as the newer technology of electrified rail took hold, and cable car operation proved unreliable when combined with the city's unpaved streets.

Phone: 213-922-6888
Fax: 213-922-7447
