# **Daily Brief**

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## **Metro Updates Security Camera And Video Equipment**

The Daily News inquired today for additional information on items 14 & 15 going before the Executive Management and Audit Committee on Thursday. The two items deal with upgrading our present camera equipment at rail stations as well as updating video recording equipment on board older Neoplan buses purchased between 1995-98. A story may appear tomorrow.

# Metro Rail And Bus Ridership Increases

Dow Jones News Service, the Los Angeles Times and KCBS-TV inquired today regarding increases in ridership as a result of higher gasoline prices. The reporters were told that a month-to-month comparison between July and August of this year showed a 2.68 percent increase. Year to year comparison from 2004 and 2005 showed a 7.82 percent increase (39.4 million boardings in August 2005 compared to 36.5 million in August 2004).

#### **Metro Helps Katrina Evacuees**

A reporter from the Park La Brea News interviewed Metro Public Relations staff today re: Metro efforts to help Katrina Hurricane evacuees who have been relocated to Los Angeles get around via public transportation. Metro is providing transit passes and transit information and staff will be on hand at the relocation center to assist new arrivals.

Fill the Boot' Event for Hurricane Katrina Evacuees This Past Weekend

Volunteers from the Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Sector, the El Monte Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's and Fire departments joined together this past weekend in a fundraising effort for Hurricane Katrina evacuees.

From 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., Saturday, and again from noon until 2 p.m. on Sunday, volunteers were stationed at the intersections of Valley and Rosemead, Valley and Santa Anita, Garvey and Rosemead and Garvey and Santa Anita to receive monetary donations for the American Red Cross. The event raised nearly \$70,000. On Monday, the group presented a check for \$62,000 to the American Red Cross and is expected to contribute \$5,000 to \$6,000 more once all coins had been counted.

## Metro Maintenance Team Wins 1st Place at Regional Bus Roadeo

In its first competition of the year against rival transit properties, Metro's bus maintenance team – mechanics Andrew Warren Jr., Rommel Vargas and Frank Forde – took top honors, Sept. 10, in the Southern California Regional Bus Roadeo.

The Arthur Winston Division 5 mechanics, along with Central City Division 1 Operator Sam Morales, who placed third in the drivers' competition, will travel to Dallas later this month to represent Metro at the APTA International Roadeo Finals, Sept. 24.

# **Metro Establishing Sales Outlets around Orange Line**

In preparation for the opening of the Metro Orange Line, Metro Commute Services has examined the business centers near each of the stations to ensure new riders will have plenty of convenient locations to purchase Metro Passes. Ten of the thirteen stations are currently served by pass sales locations. The other three stations have multiple pass seller applications pending approval. Applications include "mom and pop" stores as well as major chains such as: Rite Aid, Staples, Costco and Smart & Final. Pierce College sells regular and student passes on site and provides its full-time students free fall semester I-Passes.

# Update on Contract Bus Services Labor Issue - Day 44

Transportation Concepts Inc. made 100% on-time rollout again this morning. There were nine drivers and two teamster representatives on the picket lines. There were no incidents between the TCI drivers and picketers.

#### Of Note:

On this day in 1984, the City of Los Angeles committed an initial \$34 million

towards the construction cost of the first 4.4 mile segment of the Southern California Rapid Transit District's Metro Rail (now Metro Red Line) project, bringing it another step closer to a Federal Full Funding Grant Agreement and the project's 1986 groundbreaking.

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