

# Metro News

## **MTA Secures State Funding For Eastside Light Rail Project**

### **Other stories:**

- > Crenshaw Boulevard to get Metro Rapid
- > New light rail cars ordered
- > Inglewood Transit Center opens
- > Valley bus improvement meetings begin
- > Free monthly art tours offered





Artist's rendition of future Soto Metro Rail Station at 1st and Soto streets. The underground station, located in the heart of Boyle Heights, will be within walking distance of the Cesar E. Chavez Avenue commercial district.

## Eastside Metro Rail Project Construction Pending

Major construction contracts for the Eastside Metro Rail project are expected to be awarded this fall with actual construction of eight stations and a 1.8-mile tunnel segment under Boyle Heights expected to start later this year.

The schedule depends on first receiving federal funding approval. State funding is in place.

When the six-mile extension of the Metro Gold Line to the Eastside opens in 2009 it will run between Union Station and Atlantic Boulevard. [MN](#)



While Metro Art tour participants gaze at artwork, docent Eileen White, microphone in hand, provides inside scoop on Union Station. Reservations are not required for the free twice-a-month tours.

## Free Metro Art Tours

Reservations are no longer required for free Metro Art tours of Metro Rail stations.

Led by volunteer members of the Metro Art Docent Council, roundtrip tours are offered the first Saturday and first Sunday of every month.

To participate, meet promptly at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month at the street level entrance to the Hollywood/Highland Metro Rail Station; and at 10 a.m. on the first Sunday of the month at the information booth inside the entrance to historic Union Station. Tours last approximately two hours.

Tours for groups of 15 or more are available by special arrangement. For more information, call 213.922.2738 or visit [mta.net](http://mta.net) [MN](#)

## Light Rail Cars Ordered

Additional new rail cars have been ordered for the recently opened Los Angeles-Pasadena Metro Gold Line and the extension of that line to the Eastside in 2009. All 50 new light rail vehicles, which also can be used on the Metro Blue and Green lines, are scheduled to be delivered to MTA by May 2007 and will join 26 cars already assigned to the Metro Gold Line. Two possible contract options would bring the total number of cars to 150. [MN](#)

## South Bay Welcomes New Metro Transit Center

The newly opened 1.2-acre Inglewood Metro Transit Center, part of the new look of Market Street, has made transferring to Metro Bus lines safer, easier and more convenient for more than 60,000 daily passengers.

Located on the east side of La Brea Avenue at Kelso Street, the landscaped center is served directly by six Metro South Bay bus lines including 40/340, 111, 212, 442 and the new Florence Metro Rapid Line 711.

Other improvements include new sidewalks and curbs. The center features a 45-space parking lot.

An information building, security facility and restrooms are expected to open toward the end of the year. [MN](#)



Metro San Fernando Valley Governance Council members consider viewpoints expressed by public at monthly council meetings invaluable insight into what needs to be done to improve service.

## Metro SFV Governance Council Values Public Feedback

Metro San Fernando Valley is now holding monthly governance council meetings where the public can help identify ways to improve bus service.

The council is made up of nine community members who oversee an area that stretches from Agoura Hills to Glendale.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month in the community room of the Marvin Braude San Fernando Valley Constituent Services Center, 6262 Van Nuys Boulevard, starting at 6:30 pm.

For more information, contact Myrna Aranda at 818.701.2810 or [arandam@mta.net](mailto:arandam@mta.net) [MN](#)



The new Metro Rapid line will stop at the Metro Rail Hollywood/Vine Station, which is across the street from the Pantages Theatre.

## Crenshaw Boulevard Is Getting Rapid This Winter

Fast, frequent, fabulous Metro Rapid service will begin on Crenshaw Boulevard in December.

The 18.8-mile Line 710 will travel through such communities as Los Angeles, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Gardena, unincorporated LA County, Torrance and Redondo Beach. Stops include the Crenshaw and Hollywood/Vine Metro Rail stations.

Metro Rapid features wireless equipment that extends green traffic signals, low floors for faster boardings and infrequent stops. The service is

expected to save passengers between 20 to 25% in travel time versus standard Metro Bus service.

Line 710 will be featured in a new Metro Rapid newspaper and outdoor advertising campaign that promotes the most recent Metro Rapid openings. The slogan of the campaign is "Crenshaw-Rossmore Just Got Rapid" with a tagline of "Fast. Frequent. Fabulous."

In June, Metro Rapid debuted on Florence Avenue and Van Nuys Boulevard, giving LA County a total of six Metro Rapid lines spanning 96.1 miles. [MN](#)