



# Update of Metro Sustainability Efforts

A Report to the Ad Hoc Sustainability and Climate Change Committee

September 16, 2008



**Metro**

# Outline

- **Current Events**
- **Update on Metro Sustainability Implementation Plan Deliverables**
  - **Energy**
  - **Air Quality**
  - **Support Efforts**
- **Other Sustainability-Related Efforts**

# Current Events

- **Division 9 Operations Building**
  - Achieved LEED®-Gold Certification
  - Goal initially was LEED®-Silver, per our Policy
- **Update on July 2008 APTA Sustainability Conference and APTA Climate Change Working Group**

# Energy Efforts

- Progress on the MSSC Solar panel project
- Completed Feasibility Study for Possible Wind-Generated Renewable Energy
- Status of Energy Audits
- Power Purchase Agreements and Status of Federal Tax Credit
- Current Portfolio of Renewable Power
- FY09 Capital Program Sustainability Elements
- Status of Regenerative Braking technology working group
- Other Efficiency and Conservation efforts in Rail Facilities and Construction

# Energy Efforts



**MSSC Solar/Conservation  
Project - Progress Photos:  
September 8, 2008**



# Other Energy Policy Efforts

- Collaborate and partner with local governments
  - Local Government Sustainability Energy Coalition
- Reconnect with utilities serving our facilities
- Assess sustainability impacts on Call for Projects
- Rate restructuring

# Air Quality Update

- **Update on Federal and State Legislation**
  - Senator Boxer held Environmental Public Works committee hearing at Metro for Re-authorization “MAP21” efforts
  - Secretary Peters urged Congress for an \$8 billion “Infusion” for Highway Trust Fund
- **AB 32 Scoping Plan Update:**
  - We participated with Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, California Transit Association & Self-Help Counties Association to express concerns on Scoping Plan
  - Key issues for regional agencies include:
    - Regional Target methodology & Data
    - Transit’s role in regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
    - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Regional Performance Thresholds
    - Public Outreach & Staff Training

# Air Quality Update

- **SB 375**
  - Bill is due for Governor's signature
  - Links Transportation, Land Use planning processes to reduce growth in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and GHG emissions
  - California Air Resources Board will provide regions with VMT/GHG reduction targets
  - Requires regions develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy" (SCS) starting 2011, to reach the emissions reduction targets
  - Provides CEQA review relief for Transit Priority Projects (TPP) to encourage Transit Oriented Development
  - If SCS does not meet targets "Alternative Planning Scenario" (AS) must be developed



# Air Quality Update

- Implications of recent legislative activities on our operations
  - SB 375 could potentially affect the way we prioritize projects from 2011
  - Regional Targets Advisory Committee will be formed in Jan 09
  - Metro will work with Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to develop SCS
  - SCS requires consultation with the Council of Governments and key stakeholders
    - Staffing & data collection could be significant
  - Transit Priority Projects would receive CEQA relief & could benefit Metro's Transit Oriented Development Program

# Status of Greenhouse Gas Inventory

- Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- Calculations have been completed and are being finalized
- *The Climate Registry General Reporting Protocol* was used
- Preliminary Results

# Environmental Management Systems

- **Environmental Management System (EMS) Pilot at Division 10**
  - Completed all fieldwork
  - In the process of developing a prototype database to house EMS-related information
  - Have identified capital and operational improvement projects for implementation
    - Bus Wash/Surface Water Diversion Project: Up to \$50,000 savings per year
    - Tire Inflation Improvement: Up to \$150,000 savings per year
    - Hazardous Waste/Materials Storage: Up to \$50,000 in cost avoidance savings per day

# Environmental Management Systems

- **FTA Assisted EMS at Division 20**
  - Yearlong process
  - Staff will participate in Quarterly EMS sponsored workshops beginning January 2009
  - FTA will assess Division 20 processes to determine possible capital and operations improvement projects
  - Final EMS assessment in end of 2009

# Metro Sustainability Design Criteria

- **Completed Draft of Sustainability Design Criteria**
  - Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), Rail, and Other Facilities
  - Comments have been received and are being incorporated
- **Metro Orange Line Extension**
  - Principles identified in the BRT Sustainability criteria will be incorporated into design
  - No LEED® certification for linear projects
  - Expected to be one of the most sustainable projects once completed

# Other Sustainability-Related Efforts

- **Development of a Green Chemicals Procurement Policy**
- **Development of Water Efficiency and Conservation Policies and Procedures**
- **Document Summarizing Results of Sustainability Survey**
- **Partnership with Santa Monica College**
  - Sustainability awareness training
- **Capital and Operations Related Projects to Achieve LEED® – Existing Buildings Certification**
  - Rail Divisions
- **Contract for a Second LEED Building (Division 3 Maintenance Annex) was awarded July 2008 and work is underway for a April 2009 opening**
- **Participation in Various Sustainability Expos and Conferences**
  - About 25% of all requests for participation
- **Initiated the Recruitment of Transportation Sustainability Energy Manager and Transportation Sustainability Policy Manager**

# Questions/Discussions