

Tesla, Toyota Partnership a Win for Bay Area Economy

Governor Schwarzenegger, Tesla CEO Elon Musk and Toyota President Akio Toyoda were all on hand at a press conference yesterday to announce that Tesla and Toyota will partner to build electric vehicles at the recently shuttered NUMMI plant in Fremont. Tesla has already hired former NUMMI workers and plans to add 1,000 jobs at its new Fremont location in the next few years. This partnership is a giant step in further solidifying our region as a clean tech leader and showcases the innovation and resiliency of the Bay Area economy.



BAC Joins WETA in Christening New Low-emission Ferry

On Monday, Jim Wunderman joined the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) and Bay Area leaders to officially launch the Taurus, the newest and most advanced high speed passenger ferry on San Francisco Bay. Established by the state in response to Bay Area Council research and advocacy, WETA's charter is to develop a robust Bay Area water transit system that expands day-to-day mobility and that can provide vital emergency transportation when a major earthquake disables land-based regional transportation systems. The Taurus is the fourth new low-emission vessel built by WETA and will join its sister vessels in service between Oakland and San Francisco.



May Revise Signals Tough Negotiations Ahead

Last Friday, Governor Schwarzenegger released his May revise budget and the news was not good. Previously projected revenues did not materialize and the Governor has been forced into some very draconian cuts. The Governor's proposal actually adds funding back to higher education, but completely eliminates the CalWORKS program which provides assistance to over 1 million children in California as well as 142,000 childcare and preschool slots. This is sure to be just the opening salvo in what is shaping up to be a long, hot summer.

Article of the Week

In what previously looked like a shoo-in for Meg Whitman, the race for the Republican gubernatorial nomination is shaping up to be a close call, as reported [here](#) by the Los Angeles Times.

Quote of the Week Month

"It's a great pleasure to be endorsed by the Allegheny County Republicans," [Arlen Specter misspoke](#) at an Allegheny County Democratic Committee event earlier this month. Senator Specter was defeated by Representative Joe Sestak in the Pennsylvania Democratic Primary on Tuesday.