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TO: MTA BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES
FROM: JIM SMART *[Signature]*
SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES TIMES INQUIRY

The Los Angeles Times has inquired regarding the theft of one of 18 temporary artistic columns placed as artwork to mitigate the intrusion of construction at the site of Hollywood and Western Avenue station construction.

The artwork was prepared with considerable community involvement. Design, fabrication and placement of the columns was done at a cost of \$38,000. An article on the theft, which occurred last weekend, is expected to appear soon in the paper.