



710 Freeway Coalition

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NEWS RELEASE

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Largest Rose Parade Float Ever: SR-710 Tunnel Boring Machine

The 710 Freeway Coalition announced that its float in the 2012 Tournament of Roses Parade, a full-size replica of the SR-710 tunnel boring machine, will be the largest float in Rose Parade history, at 60ft in height and 500ft in length, the height of a six-story building and half again as long as a football field. Its representational cutterhead will be 55ft in diameter, the same size as the tunnel to be bored by the eventual machine that it represents.

The massive number of flowers needed to cover the float, over 1.5 million, required that entire new flower farms be planted in Southeast Asia in 2011. A temporary structure in Brookside Park will house its construction, alongside a massive parking lot for the thousands of volunteers who will decorate the colorful float.

The record size of the float will mean that reviewing stands at the corner of Orange Grove and Colorado Boulevards will be set back from their usual placement to allow the tunnel boring machine to maneuver around the corner. The float will take most of the width of the parade streets. A special ramp will take the float up and across the 210 Freeway because of the height restriction of the freeway overpass above Sierra Madre Boulevard.

City council members and other VIPs from Alhambra, El Sereno, South Pasadena and Pasadena are being invited to ride the float.

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