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| **Friday, June 29, 2012 120629-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Metro Orange Line Extension VIP Ceremony**  **Union Station Master Plan Press Release**  **I-710 Corridor Project Releases Draft EIR/EIS for 60-Day Public Review**  **Citizens Advisory Committee Recap**  **Metro Red Line Station Canopy Project**  **Procurement Postings for Next Week** |
| **Metro Orange Line Extension VIP Ceremony**  This morning, I joined Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Antonio Villaraigosa and Metro Board Directors Zev Yaroslavsky, Pam O’Connor, Richard Katz, Mike Antonovich, Mel Wilson and Ara Najarian at a VIP [ceremony](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120629_MOL_Picture.pdf) in Chatsworth in anticipation of Saturday’s grand opening of the Metro Orange Line Extension. Officials praised Metro’s Construction team and contractor for delivering this first Measure R project well ahead of schedule and under budget. The project’s original $215.6 million budget is currently forecasted to come in at approximately $154 million, $61 million under budget. The final project savings will depend on the closeout of the project, including the resolution of any final change orders with the contractor. Prior to the passage of Measure R, this transit project was scheduled to open in 2016. The extension will include new stops at Sherman Way, Roscoe, Nordhoff and Chatsworth Metrolink Station, bringing new bus/rail connectivity to the Western San Fernando Valley. Community festivities will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday at the Canoga and Chatsworth Stations. Free rides on the extension are planned both Saturday and Sunday between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. To read the news release, please click [here](http://www.metro.net/news/simple_pr/Measure-R-Project-Metro-Orange-Line-Extension-done/). Numerous media attended the press event, including KNX, KPCC, KFI, KFWB, KNBC 4, KABC 7, KCBS 2/KCAL 9, Channels 22, 34, 35, Latino Publications, Los Angeles Times, Daily News, Chatsworth Patch and La Opinion, with stories expected to run today and over the weekend.  **Union Station Master Plan Press Release**  Yesterday, our Board of Directors voted to approve a contract with Los Angeles-based Gruen Associates in association with Grimshaw Architects of London for the creation of a master plan for the historic Union Station and its surrounding 40 acres. Gruen/Grimshaw has brought together a large team of specialist firms from preservation experts to sustainability and technical consultants to collaborate on the plan. The master plan will be a roadmap for the long-range future of the station and the 40 acres that surround it which Metro purchased in April 2011. The master planning process will encompass near term passenger and other circulation improvements as well as longer term rail and joint development opportunities, including an analysis of high speed rail station alternatives. It also will create better access for pedestrians and bicyclists and clearer linkages among the transit modes on site. Finally, the master plan team is charged with exploring close linkages with Union Station’s neighbors and downtown itself that will support and catalyze activities in the city around the station. Gruen Associates, a multidisciplinary firm which will be the Prime Contractor to Metro, has worked with Metro, city and county agencies and private landowners throughout Southern California to design, manage and execute some of the area’s most distinctive urban plans and is also well known for its transit projects. Grimshaw has a long history of creating visionary master plans and architecture for high-profile rail stations that serve millions of passengers, catalyze neighborhood revitalization, and become civic landmarks. Metro anticipates signing the contract this summer with the goal of having the master plan completed within 18 to 24 months, or summer 2014. Please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120629_USMP_Press_Release.pdf) to view the complete press release.  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120629_USMP_Press_Release.pdf>  **I-710 Corridor Project Releases Draft EIR/EIS for 60-Day Public Review**  A joint news release was issued today by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in cooperation with Metro, the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, and the Interstate 5 Joint Powers Authority to announce the release of the Draft EIR/EIS on the I-710 Corridor Project for a 60-day public review. The news release notes that the environmental review is looking at proposals that would improve Interstate 710 (I-710) in Los Angeles County between Ocean Boulevard and State Route 60 (SR-60). Major elements addressed in the Draft EIR/EIS include widening the I-710 freeway up to ten general purpose lanes (five lanes in each direction); modernizing and reconfiguring the I-405, SR-91 and a portion of the I-5 interchanges with the I-710; modernizing and reconfiguring most local arterial interchanges along the I-710; and looking at a provision of a separate four-lane freight corridor to be used by conventional or zero-emission trucks. Caltrans and Metro will hold a series of public hearings in early August to update the public on the Draft EIR/EIS and the potential effects this project may have on the environment. Please click [here](http://www.metro.net/news/simple_pr/I-710-Corridor-Project-Released-for-60-day-Public-/) to view the complete news release.  <http://www.metro.net/news/simple_pr/I-710-Corridor-Project-Released-for-60-day-Public-/>  Please see the list of Public Hearing Dates and Locations:   * Tuesday, August 7, 2012 (6:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.) - Progress Park, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, California * Wednesday, August 8, 2012, (6:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.) - Silverado Park Community Center, 1545 West 31st Street, Long Beach, California * Thursday, August 9, 2012 (4:00 p.m. - 8 p.m.)  - Rosewood Park, 5600 Harbor Street, Commerce, California   Copies of the Draft EIR/EIS are available for review at public libraries throughout the I-710 corridor. Please click [here](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist07/resources/envdocs/docs/710corridor/) to view the draft EIR/EIS. For general information on the I-710 Corridor Project, please click [here](http://www.metro.net/710).  **Citizens Advisory Committee Recap**    On Wednesday, June, 27, 2012 evening, the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) general assembly met. Deputy CEO Paul Taylor provided a presentation on the proposed Measure R extension and Board Director Mel Wilson helped answer questions on this topic. The CAC has endorsed the extension. Neil Bjornsen and Jerard Wright were reelected chair and vice chair, respectively. Michael Kravitz was elected secretary. Appointed by the Metro Board, the CAC members serve as adjunct to the board and meet twice a month - executive board, the first Friday and the general assembly, the day before the regular Metro Board meeting. Both meetings are open to the public. CAC members helped represent Metro at recent community events including the Expo Culver City Station opening, the Christopher Street West Parade and the Covina Green Fair. Questions on the council, which currently has seventeen members, can be directed to [cac@metro.net](mailto:cac@metro.net) or (310) 354-1645.  **Metro Red Line Station Canopy Project**  Metro’s Contractor will begin constructing a canopy for the Civic Center Northeast Portal entrance. Activities include installation of temporary fence, demolition of the plaza slab for construction of foundations, columns, superstructure, utility relocation, pavement reconstruction and landscape restoration. Installation of barricade wall and demolition of concrete will start on Monday, July 2, 2012 and will last for approximately one month. The construction work hours are Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120629_Civic_Center_Construction_Notice.pdf) to view the complete construction notice.  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120629_Civic_Center_Construction_Notice.pdf>  **Procurement Postings for Next Week**  Outside Printing Services (RFP)  Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure a bench to provide as needed overflow outside printing services. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from July 3, 2012 through September 1, 2012. Metro requires the services of qualified outside printers for customer materials when production requirements exceed in-house resources and capacity, such as during shake-ups and grand openings, and for other complex printing jobs and time-sensitive materials. Printed materials produced by outside vendors include specialty items such as maps, posters, mailers and other literature essential to the execution of Metro’s mission. Awarding these contracts does not obligate any funds; it establishes a bench of qualified printing vendors that can be used to provide services on an as-needed basis. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Linda Rickert, Sr. Contract Administrator at (213) 922-4186.  Pest and Bird Control Services (IFB)  Procurement will release Invitation for Bids (IFB) for the solicitation of Pest and Bird Control Services. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from July 5, 2012 through December 15, 2012. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Kenneth Takahashi, Sr. Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1047.  Roller Journal Bearings for Metro Red Line Cars (IFB)  Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure roller journal bearings for the Metro Red Line cars. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from July 2, through August 29, 2012. The roller journal bearing is basically a cylinder which surrounds the shaft and is filled with lubricant that allows the wheel axle to turn. Due to normal operating service the bearings must be replaced periodically. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Sherri Jackson, Procurement Planning Administrator at 213-922-1025.  Resistor Grids for Metro Red Line Card (IFB)  Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure resistor grids for Metro Red Line cars. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from July 3, through August 30, 2012. The resistor grid works with the dynamic braking system to dissipate the heat generated by the traction motor in the process of stopping the car. The existing resistor grids can no longer be repaired and must be replaced. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Sherri Jackson, Procurement Planning Administrator at 213-922-1025. | |
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