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| **Wednesday, November 7, 2012121107-1****In this Issue:****Statement Regarding Measure J Falling Short of Necessary Two-Thirds Voter Approval****Countdown to Metro ExpressLanes:** **Tip #8 –Transit is Key to our Success** |
| **Statement Regarding Measure J Falling Short of Necessary Two-Thirds Voter Approval**While the ballot effort to extend the Measure R transit sales tax by another 30 years fell just short of the necessary two thirds voter approval, our agency remains focused on delivering a dozen new transit projects and fifteen highway improvement projects that voters approved four years ago in passing Measure R. In fact, within two years Metro should be overseeing simultaneous construction of five major rail projects. Also the Measure R transit sales tax for transit – approved in 2008 by more than 2 million voters – continues until 2039, so Metro directors have the option of asking voters in the future if they wish to extend the program. To view this statement as it was posted on The Source, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2012/11/07/statement-from-metro-ceo-art-leahy-measure-j-falls-just-short-of-necessary-two-thirds-voter-approval/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=statement-from-metro-ceo-art-leahy-measure-j-falls-just-short-of-necessar). **Countdown to Metro ExpressLanes:** **Tip #8 –Transit is Key to our Success**We are just three days away from introducing Metro ExpressLanes to the public.  Express bus service plays a critical role in optimizing the benefits of ExpressLanes.  59 new clean fuel buses were purchased for the Silver Line, Foothill Silver Streak, Foothill Route 699, Torrance Transit Line 4, and Gardena Municipal Bus Line 1X. Transit riders along the 110 will enjoy lighting and security improvements at the Harbor Transitway Stations. A new noise barrier was recently installed at the 37th Street Station and new bus stops were constructed at the Manchester and Slauson Stations. The Silver Line service has been upgraded to bus rapid transit frequencies – every 10 minutes during rush hour on the 110 Harbor Transitway – and with all of the buses wrapped. Ridership has increased more than 70% with these capital and operating improvements. Frequent transit riders on eligible transit routes\* earn toll credits that can be applied to their FasTrak account. Every 32 one-way trips during peak hours earn a $5 toll credit, applied directly to the customer’s FasTrak account. \*The eligible transit routes on the 110 are:Metro Lines 450, 550, and Silver LineGardena Line 1XTorrance Line 4LADOT Commuter Express 438 and 448For more information on the Metro ExpressLanes, please visit [www.metroexpresslanes.net](http://www.metroexpresslanes.net). |
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