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| **Tuesday, November 13, 2012121113-1****In this Issue:****Advance Utility Relocation Work Begins on Westside Subway Extension Project****Metro ExpressLanes on the 110 Freeway Are Now Open****Division 13 Bus Maintenance Facility Construction Notice** |
| **Advance Utility Relocation Work Begins on Westside Subway Extension Project**This afternoon Metro officials held a press conference at Wilshire and La Brea, marking the official beginning of advance utility relocation work for the Westside Subway Extension Project. Utility crews have begun relocating existing underground telecommunication lines on Wilshire Boulevard between La Brea Avenue and Detroit Street, site of a future subway station. Utility relocation work is also planned at Wilshire/Western and the future Wilshire/Fairfax and Wilshire/La Cienega stations over the next year and a half.  Numerous media, including KABC 7, KTTV 11, Univision 34, 36, TV K24, USC Annenberg School of Communications, New York Times, Korea Daily News, La Opinion, Downtown News, Beverly Press, Patch, Wave Newspapers, Sing Tao Newspaper covered the event, with stories expected to run today and tomorrow. To read the complete story posted on The Source, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2012/11/13/milestone-utility-relocation-begins-for-westside-subway-extension/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=milestone-utility-relocation-begins-for-westside-subway-extension). **Metro ExpressLanes on the 110 Freeway Are Now Open** At 10:02:26 p.m. on Saturday, November 10, 2012, Express Lanes on the 110 were delivered to Los Angeles County. The Birth Length: 11 miles (Between Adams Boulevard and the 91 freeway) and Birth Weight: More than 39,000 transponders. The posted toll amounts “at opening” for the entire 11 miles of the corridor: (NB) (Harbor Gateway Transit Center to Adams Boulevard) (SB) (Adams Boulevard to 91 Freeway) were $4.10 and $3.40 respectively.  We are excited to report that in its first few days of opening, toll operations are running smoothly and as expected. During today’s first official morning rush hour, travel speeds in the ExpressLanes averaged 60 mph and the volume of traffic was significant (averaging 1,200 vehicles per hour per lane). Please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/121113_Express%20Lanes_Photo.pdf) to view a photo. Live operation of the ExpressLanes provides motorists with the opportunity to better understand how to use the lanes and the travel time benefits over the general purpose lanes. While it will take two to three months for traffic to stabilize, we expect traffic volumes to grow with an increase in transponder adoption.    FasTrak transponders are available online, by phone at 511, by mail, at designated walk-in centers, as well as at over 150 retail locations that offer various discounts (AAA, Albertsons, and Costco).  For more information, please visit [www.metroexpresslanes.net](http://www.metroexpresslanes.net).*About Metro ExpressLanes**Metro ExpressLanes is an exciting new endeavor. But like all new undertakings, it will take some time to become familiar with how it works, and it will take time before we experience the full benefits and rewards of this new traffic flow improvement project. We expect to see traffic flow enhancements and congestion reduction as the project progresses over time along with some immediate advantages such as new and more frequent transit service. Participant-adoption, and on-going feedback as a vital partner in this program will ensure its success as well as an improved travel experience for all drivers between the 110 and 10 freeways to downtown Los Angeles.*<http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/121113_Express%20Lanes_Photo.pdf>**Division 13 Bus Maintenance Facility Construction Notice**K-Rail Installation and Utility RelocationAs part of the Metro Division 103 Bus Maintenance and Operations Facility Project, the Contractor will be relocating underground utilities along the easterly side of Vignes Street from Cesar Chavez Avenue to the Twin Towers Jail Facility. This work will be performed in two stages: one stage will include placing k-rail with fencing along this section of Vignes Street; the second stage will include excavation and relocation of the underground utilities. K-rail placement will begin approximately Monday, November 19, 2012. The anticipated work hours for this activity are scheduled from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The utility relocation activities will immediately follow the placement of the k-rail. This work is expected to be completed by the end of March 2013, with the anticipated work hours scheduled from 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weather permitting. To view the complete construction notice, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/121113_Utility_Relocation_Construction_Notice.pdf). <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/121113_Utility_Relocation_Construction_Notice.pdf> |
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