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| **Thursday, October 11, 2012121011-1****In this Issue:****Metro and Kiewit Statements Regarding Kiewit Worker Incident** **Elected Officials, Metro and Community Members Celebrate Approval of the Federal $545.9 Million Loan to Build Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail Line****Iconic Sculpture Inaugurated at El Monte Station VIP Opening****Westside Subway Extension Community Update Meeting****Westside Subway Extension Industry Constructability Review and Meet & Greet** |
| **Metro and Kiewit Statements Regarding Kiewit Worker Incident** A construction worker on the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project was killed about 2:30 this morning when a steel construction beam fell on him. The accident occurred on the Santa Monica Boulevard off-ramp from the southbound 405. The worker was pronounced dead at the scene. Metro expresses its deepest condolences to the worker's family, friends and co-workers. It is the first serious incident on the I-405 project in nearly three years of work. Further work on the entire project has been stopped while the contractor does a thorough safety review. The incident is being investigated by CalOSHA. The worker’s employer, Kiewit Corporation, also issued the following statement:“We were deeply saddened to learn that early this morning one of our employees, Adolfo Figueroa, died while performing work on the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project. We extend our sincerest condolences to Adolfo’s family and friends, and those who knew and worked with him at Kiewit. Our deepest thoughts and prayers are with all of them at this time. The safety of those who work on our projects and the traveling public is our most fundamental value and top priority. Kiewit is conducting a thorough investigation into this matter and working closely with CalOSHA, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), and other state and local authorities, to determine the factors contributing to this tragic event.”**Elected Officials, Metro and the Community Celebrate Approval of the Federal $545.9 Million Loan to Build Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail Line**Yesterday, U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, Los Angeles County elected officials and members of the community celebrated the approval of the federal $545.9 million loan to build the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor. This press event was held at the Metro Green Line Aviation Station. Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Director Antonio Villaraigosa, U.S. Representatives Janice Hahn and Maxine Waters, Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair Michael Antonovich and Lakewood City Mayor and Metro Board Director Diane DuBois, participated in the event, among others. News media included TV stations 5, 7, 22, 35, KNX Radio and the weekly Inglewood Today. Stories are expected to run throughout today.**Iconic Sculpture Inaugurated at El Monte Station VIP Opening**An iconic sculpture by Donald Lipski was inaugurated at yesterday’s El Monte Station VIP opening event. Lipski is a renowned sculptor with works represented in the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York), the Walker Art Center (Minneapolis), and the Chicago Institute and has received the coveted Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome. For the El Monte Station Lipski has created a monumental clock tower - with a twist. Entitled [*Time Piece*](http://thesource.metro.net/2012/07/27/monumental-sculpture-time-piece-to-be-installed-at-new-el-monte-station/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=monumental-sculpture-time-piece-to-be-installed-at-new-el-monte-station), the artwork includes three double sided clocks suspended from a sweeping 30 foot tall stainless steel arch, using a web of thin stainless steel cables. The functional clock sculpture echoes the grand clock towers historically found in transit systems, but updated for a contemporary context. See photos and [press release](http://thesource.metro.net/2012/10/10/iconic-sculpture-watches-over-new-el-monte-station/), posted on The Source.**Westside Subway Extension Community Update Meeting**Last night, Metro hosted a community update meeting regarding the Westside Subway Extension. This was the first meeting held since concluding the environmental analysis phase of the project. Staff from Planning, Construction and Community Relations conducted the meeting that focused on pre-construction activities that could be expected in the first section of the Subway from the current terminus of the Metro Purple Line at Wilshire/Western to Wilshire/La Cienega. Information was also shared with the community about the three new stations that are in this first segment along Wilshire at La Brea, Fairfax and La Cienega. Members of the public asked a variety of questions, mostly focusing on understanding the impacts of construction in general and on specific properties. More than 130 people attended this meeting including Beverly Hills Mayor Willie Brien along with representatives from the offices of Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Director Antonio Villaraigosa and Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz.  Reporters from the Beverly Hills Courier and Beverly Hills Patch were also present and we expect stories to run shortly. Staff anticipates holding the next update meeting early in 2013.**Westside Subway Extension Industry Constructability Review and Meet & Greet**On Wednesday, October 10, 2012, Metro hosted over 400 participants at the Industry Constructability Review and Meet & Greet Event for the Westside Subway Extension Project. The Industry Constructability Review gave Metro an opportunity to provide potential prime contractors and interested subcontractors with an overview of the 9-mile extension of the Metro Purple Line from Wilshire/Western Station to the West Los Angeles/Veterans Affairs Hospital site. The main purpose of the Constructability Review is to obtain industry comment on Section 1 of the project from Wilshire/Western to Wilshire/La Cienega, and to begin discussions on our approach, including identification of potential risks, alternative means and methods and potential innovative cost saving ideas. The event also allowed prime contractors to Meet & Greet Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) and other businesses to discuss subcontracting opportunities that will be created as part of this large public investment.   |
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