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| **Thursday, September 20, 2012 120920-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Metro Receives ELACC Award Eastside Revolving Loan Fund**  **Creative Services Staff Speaking at Social Media Conference**  **Los Angeles Times Covers Expo Phase I Safety Assessment**  **Metro Red Line Station Canopy Project Construction Notices** |
| **Metro Receives ELACC Award Eastside Revolving Loan Fund**  On September 6, 2012, our agency received a certificate from Councilman and Metro Board Member Jose Huizar and an award from the East Los Angeles Community Housing Corporation (ELACC) for our participation in providing funding for the Boyle Hotel-Cummings Block. The project includes 23 units of affordable housing units and is across the street from Mariachi Plaza, one of the stations on the Metro Gold Line at 1st/Boyle Streets. The Boyle Hotel-Cummings Block is one of four projects that Metro has provided funding for in Boyle Heights. As one of the lending partners Metro has been able to provide affordable housing units in the community. To date, 100 affordable housing units have been replenished in the area, completing Metro’s obligation to replenish 100 housing units acquired for the Eastside Rail Extension.  **Creative Services Staff Speaking at Social Media Conference**  Lan-Chi Lam, Interactive Design & Strategy Manager, will be speaking at the Social Media Los Angeles conference next week. Her session, "[City of Angels: How Social Media is Bringing LA Closer to Utopia](http://socialmediaweek.org/blog/event/city-of-angels-how-social-media-can-get-la-closer-to-utopia/)", will include a discussion on the incredibly powerful range of successful communications technology tools her team has built and "how social media can help connect people to their local communities, city services, and organizations in new ways". As increasing numbers of people turn to new methods of communicating, Metro’s groundbreaking work in area of communications technology continues to be widely recognized.  **Los Angeles Times Covers Expo Phase I Safety Assessment**  A story in the Los Angeles Times is expected online today and in print tomorrow regarding Metro implementation of additional safety enhancements on Expo Phase I. In response to concerns raised by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in a letter dated May 29, 2012 a task force consisting of Metro, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department (LASD) staff was formed and conducted a field review of the Expo train crossings and recommended a series of safety enhancements such as active LED pedestrian signs. A Los Angeles Times reporter was told that Metro has already begun implementing these additional safety enhancements, and they should all be completed by next June.  **Metro Red Line Station Canopy Project Construction Notices**  Metro Red Line Pershing Square Northwest Station Entrance  Metro’s Contractor will begin constructing a canopy at the Northwest station entrance located on Hill Street and 4th Street. Activities include demolition of the plaza slab for construction of foundations, columns, superstructure, utility relocation, pavement reconstruction and landscape restoration. The Contractor will begin by installing barricades to create a safe work zone and will conduct an electronic subsurface survey to locate and mark the position and estimate depth of all existing underground utilities. Demolition will follow. Construction work will begin on Monday, September 24, 2012 for approximately two months. The construction work hours are scheduled on Sunday through Thursday between 9:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., possible intermittent day construction activities between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. To view the complete construction notice, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120920_Pershing_Square_Northwest_Entrance_Construction_Notice.pdf).  Metro Rail Pershing Square Station Southeast Portal Entrance  Metro’s Contractor continues to work on the construction of the canopy for the Pershing Square Southeast Portal entrance. To facilitate the installation of the new canopy the Contractor will erect scaffolding over the station entrance. Once the scaffolding has been erected, the Contractor will start erecting the steel structure. Scaffolding erection will begin on Wednesday, October 3, 2012, for approximately three nights. Steel structure erection will start on Monday, October 8, 2012, for approximately two weeks. The construction work hours are scheduled from Monday through Friday from 8:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., day construction activities will take place between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. To view the complete construction notice, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120920_Pershing_Square_Southeast_Entrance_Scaffolding_Steel_Structure_Erection_Construction_Notice.pdf). | |
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