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| **Friday, March 1, 2013130301-1****In this Issue:****Meetings on I-5 North Capacity Enhancements – SR14 to Parker Road****The International Chinese Transportation Professionals Association Hosted a Seminar at Metro Today****Construction and Associated Careers Awareness Day****Sequestration For Federal Government Set To Begin****Procurement Postings for Next Week****Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events** |
| **Meetings on I-5 North Capacity Enhancements – SR14 to Parker Road**This week staff concluded two community meetings to introduce concepts to accelerate the construction of carpool lanes on the I-5 in the Santa Clarita Valley. Over 100 people attended to hear about the project and comment on the proposal. This important Measure R project would add one new carpool lane in each direction of Interstate 5 from SR-14 to Parker Road and a truck lane in the southbound direction from Calgrove to SR-14. These added lanes are in addition to the ongoing truck lane widening construction on the I-5 in Santa Clarita. Tolling would be necessary to close a funding gap. We received media coverage from The Santa Clarita Valley Signal, and Channels 4, 11 and 52. A public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2013 to take formal comments on the proposed project. **The International Chinese Transportation Professionals Association Hosted a Seminar at Metro Today**The International Chinese Transportation Professionals Association (ICTPA) hosted a seminar on Transportation Public Private Partnership (P3) and Construction Manager / General Contractor (CMGC) at Metro Board Room today to help the industry get prepared for P3 and CMGC project delivery in California.  Doug Failing, Executive Director of Highway Program, joined Mr. Kome Ajise, Caltrans Deputy Director and P3 Program Manager; Ms. Jenica Finnerty, Assistant Chief of Project Management, Nevada Department of Transportation; Mr. Pierce Homer, National Transportation Director of Moffatt & Nichol and former Secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth of Virginia; and Mr. Thomas W. Pelnik III, Senior Vice President, ACS Infrastructure Development, Inc., and former Director of Innovative Delivery Division of Virginia DOT, spoke at this event.On February 20, 2009, the approval of Senate Bill Second Extraordinary Session 4 ([SBX2 4](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/innovfinance/Public-Private%20Partnerships/SB%204%202nd%20Ext.%20Session.pdf)) Chapter 2, Statutes of 2009 (Cogdill) established the legislative authority until January 1, 2017 to allow regional transportation agencies and Caltrans to enter into an unlimited number of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) to deliver transportation improvement projects.  In August 2012, the passage of Senate Bill No. 1549 authorizes Caltrans to use the construction manager/general contractor (CMGC) or the design-sequencing methods of project delivery.  It also authorizes the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to use the CMGC project delivery method.  Major transportation agencies, such as Metro, in California have begun to use public-private-partnership (P3) project delivery method to facilitate efficient delivery and transferring prudent risk to private section for major transportation projects.  The event attracted more than 120 program managers, project managers and business managers from around Southern California.**Construction and Associated Careers Awareness Day**Metro participated yesterday in the 5th annual Construction and Associated Careers Awareness Day held at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. Over 2,000 Los Angeles Unified School District students were able to speak with union trade representatives, contractors, engineers, architects and many representatives from agencies about careers with their companies. Metro has previously participated in the planning of this event, and this year was instrumental in recruiting 12 apprenticeship organizations to participate. Apprenticeship organizations are a vital pathway to a career in construction, specifically with Metro’s new Project Labor Agreement and Construction Careers Policy. In addition to having a Metro bus exhibited at the event, staff provided information on Metro administrative and operations job opportunities. **Sequestration For Federal Government Set To Begin**At 11:59 p.m. tonight, the United States Government will begin sequestration, which cuts $85.3 billion from the Federal budget for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2013. President Obama summoned congressional leaders to the White House for a meeting earlier today. Those talks did not result in a plan to avert the Sequester. While the Highway Trust Fund is not affected by the Sequester, the approximately $11 Billion per year in General Fund transfers to the Highway Trust Fund, as well as the Capital Investment Grants program (New Starts Program) are affected. According to a report issued by the Office of Management and Budget, the New Starts Program would, as a result of the sequestration process, lose approximately 5% of its programmatic funding (which is $100 million out of a total budget of $1.9 billion). Metro's federal advocates continue to work with Congress and the U.S. Department of Transportation to advance and protect our Board-approved 2013 Federal Legislative Program.**Procurement Postings for Next Week**Metro Photo Enforcement ProgramThe above subject procurement has been postponed due to required revisions. The procurement process blackout period was expected to run from February 6, 2013 to May 30, 2013. The CEO will be notified when the RFP is ready to be released based on a revised schedule. Any inquiries concerning this procurement postponement should be directed to Maria V. Lechuga, at (213) 922-7206.Awnings and Canopies at Divisions 8, 10 & 15 (IFB)Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for a contractor to perform construction work for the complete construction and construction management of Awnings and Canopies at Divisions 8, 10 & 15 as outlined in the Statement of Work. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from February 27, 2013 through May 22, 2013. The worksite locations are:Division 8 – 9201 Canoga Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311Division 10 – 742 N. Mission Road, Los Angeles, CA 90033Division 15 – 11900 Branford Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Deneise Glover, Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-7302.Metro Red Line SCADA Replacement (RFP)Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure professional engineering services. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from March 1, 2013 through October 31, 2013. Metro is procuring engineering services and equipment to replace the Metro Red Line Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. The existing SCADA system was delivered in 1996 as part of the Wilshire/Western expansion. It was expanded in 1999 and 2000 respectively to support the opening of Hollywood and North Hollywood expansions. The system is now obsolete, whereby the hardware must be obtained from surplus suppliers and the software is no longer directly supported by the vendor. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Nicole Dang, Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-7438.Design-Build CNG Emergency Generators at Divisions 7 & 8 (With Option at Division 1) (IFB)Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week for the design and construction of emergency generators at Metro bus facilities. The Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy will apply to this Procurement. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from March 8, 2013 through July 8, 2013. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is seeking a General Contractor to design and install a new diesel-fueled backup Generator Unit, which will provide emergency power to the CNG Compressor systems at Divisions 1, 7, and 8. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Tiffany Smith, Metro Trainee, at (213) 922-7216.Emergency Lighting (IFB)Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week for the solicitation of 400 Emergency Lamp Packs. Metro’s passenger stations are required to provide emergency lighting for ninety (90) minutes for the safe exit of patrons during utility power loss per the City of Los Angeles Regulation 4 safety code. These lamps will enable Metro to meet those compliance requirements. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from March 5, 2013 through March 28, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Ruth DeWitt, Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1076.**Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events**Next week, I will be in Washington D.C. for Mobility 21 where I will be meeting with Congressman and Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Bill Shuster; United States Senator and Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Barbara Boxer; Congressman and ranking Democrat on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Nick Rahall; and Congressman and Ranking Democrat on Highways and Transit Subcommittee, Peter DeFazio. Additionally, I will be meeting with the U.S. Department of Transportation’s (USDOT) Deputy Secretary, John Porcari and the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Administrator Peter Rogoff. Lastly, I will meet with delegates representing Los Angeles County including Congresswoman Gloria Negrete-McLeod, Congresswoman Julia Brownley, Congressman Alan Lowenthal, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, and Congresswoman Grace Napolitano. |
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