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| **Tuesday, August 26, 2014 140826-1 In this Issue: Jimmy Kimmel Goes Metro to Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre Draft EIS/EIR released for Eastside Transit Corridor Phase II Metro to Retire Last High Floor Buses on August 30, 2014 Expo Phase 2 Construction Notice** |
| **Expo Phase 2 Construction Notice**  Street Widening and Roadway Improvements  As part of the construction of Phase 2 of the Expo Light Rail Line, work crews will continue with street and roadway improvements along Venice Boulevard. The work is being managed and performed by the Expo Phase 2 design-build contractor Skanska-Rados, Joint Venture (SRJV), and its subcontractors. Closures are scheduled from Wednesday, August 27, 2014 through Friday, October 24, 2014 for 24-hour work shifts, Monday through Sunday. Starting the week of Monday, August 25, 2014, temporary lane closures will be implemented on Westbound Venice Boulevard during nighttime hours for the relocation of K-Rail and restriping of traffic lanes to delineate the new work areas along the north side of the street. To view the complete construction notice, please click [here.](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/140825-EXPO-P2-CONSTRUCTION-NOTICE-Venice-Blvd-Roadway-Improvements-North-Side.pdf)  **Jimmy Kimmel Goes Metro to Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre**  Talk show host Jimmy Kimmel ditched the limousine ride and took the Metro Red and Blue lines to the 66th annual Emmy Awards last night. This is the first time in forty years that the Emmy Awards are held on a weekday and in order to avoid rush hour traffic, Jimmy Kimmel and his wife Molly McNearney did the smart thing and let Metro do the driving. After transferring to the Blue Line, Jimmy posted a photo of himself sitting in the train heading towards Pico station near LA Live and the Nokia Theatre venue. Whether your destination is to the Emmy’s or to and from work, arrive in style and beat traffic going Metro. To view the photographs as posted on The Source, please click [here.](http://thesource.metro.net/2014/08/25/jimmy-kimmel-goeswent-metro-to-emmys/)  **Draft EIS/EIR released for Eastside Transit Corridor Phase II**  Last Friday, we released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 project. Along with the required No-Build and TSM alternatives, the study evaluates two potential Light Rail Transit (LRT) alignments – one along State Route 60 to Peck Road in the City of South El Monte, and the other along Washington Boulevard to Lambert Road in the City of Whittier. We will be hosting 4 public hearings in the study area between Saturday, September 27, 2014 and Wednesday, October 1, 2014, where the public can learn more about the project, talk to staff and provide input. The 60-day public comment period on the Draft EIS/EIR runs through 5:00 p m on October 21st. Copies of the document are available at [www.metro.net/eastsidephase2](http://www.metro.net/eastsidephase2) as well as several locations along the proposed alignments. That website also includes details on the public hearings, the locations where the document can be viewed, an interactive map, and more information about the study.  **Metro to Retire Last High Floor Buses on August 30, 2014**  On August 30, 2014, Metro will retire the last of its high floor buses and become a 100% low floor fleet for the first time in its history. Low-floor buses provide easier access to more than 2,800 customers who use wheelchairs to board Metro buses every day. High-floor buses were originally designed to accommodate fuel tanks, air tanks and other mechanical equipment that was located under the cabin floor. This simple design had its limitations and made it more challenging for some bus riders, including the elderly and those with physical disabilities, to climb aboard. New buses with the latest accessibility technology have wider ramps and entry doors, as well as wider space at the fare box for better maneuvering for customers who use wheelchairs or other mobility devices or aids. The ramps are also less mechanically complex, and can be deployed easier and more quickly, a key improvement that speeds boarding and exiting times for everyone who rides Metro buses. To view the complete story as posted on the Source, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2014/08/26/end-of-an-era-metro-to-retire-its-last-high-floor-buses-on-august-30/). | |
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