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| **Wednesday, January 15, 2014 140115-1**  **In this Issue:**  **TAP Validator Relocation Improvements at Rail Stations to Begin Thursday**  **Highway Construction Lessons Learned from Northridge Earthquake**  **I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project Construction Notice** |
| **TAP Validator Relocation Improvements at Rail Stations to Begin Thursday**  Construction work will begin this week to relocate and add stand alone validators (SAV’s) in a “Virtual Gate” configuration at Metro rail stations. A “virtual gate” consists of a row of four SAV’s at rail station entrances forming a “virtual gate” similar to fare gates. The project will consist of moving existing SAV’s currently installed at the stations, installing new SAVs, and adding infrastructure for future SAVs as inventory becomes available. The “virtual gate” will provide customers with conveniently located validators so they can TAP as they prepare to board their train. The project will enhance fare collection at 25 stations on the Metro Blue and Gold line stations. Construction will begin on Thursday, January 16, 2014 at Imperial/Wilmington and will continue with Pico Station on the Blue Line and south towards the end the line. The project will then proceed to Union Station Gold line Station and will work north to the end of the line at Sierra Madre Villa.  **FOX 11 Explores Highway Construction Lessons Learned from Northridge Earthquake**  Metro Media Relations worked with KTTV (Fox 11 TV) on a story related to the 20th anniversary of the Northridge earthquake. Reporter Hal Eisner wanted to discuss the “lessons learned” regarding highway construction and seismic retrofit. Metro Executive Director, Highway Project Delivery Doug Failing granted an interview with the reporter. Failing discussed retrofits to Southern California freeways that Caltrans had embarked upon in the 1990s as a result of the Loma Prieta quake and indicated that seismic retrofits largely did the job as expected. The lessons learned were that retrofits needed to be completed faster as the major arteries affected by the earthquake had not been retrofitted yet. Coverage is expected on the 5 p.m. news today.  **I-405** **Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project Construction Notice**  Full Directional Nighttime Closure As part of the ongoing construction for the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project, the contractor will be conducting a full closure of both directions of the I-405 in the Sepulveda Pass at different times the night of Thursday, January 16, 2014 in order to pour the concrete deck for the Skirball Bridge. Work will be conducted on the night of Thursday, January 16, 2014 along the Southbound I-405 between Valley Vista and Skirball Center Drive from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., along the Northbound I-405 between Getty Center Drive and Skirball Center Drive from 2:30 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., and at the Skirball Bridge which will be closed from northbound Skirball Center Drive to Sepulveda Boulevard. One direction of the freeway will be maintained at all times. To view the complete construction notice on The Source, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2014/01/15/full-directional-i-405-closures-in-the-sepulveda-pass-planned-tomorrow-night-to-pour-skirball-bridge-deck/). | |
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