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| **Friday, March 28, 2014140328-1****In this Issue:****Public Hearing on Proposed Fare Changes****Essays by Noted Authors About Union Station Featured at Downtown Bookfest****Caltrans Interstate 5 Construction Notices****Procurement Postings for Next Week****Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events** |
| **Public Hearing on Proposed Fare Changes** A large public turnout is expected for Saturday’s public hearing on proposed fare changes. The public will be asked for input on two fare changes under consideration. Current Metro fares cover just 26 percent of the cost of operating the buses and trains and Metro faces an unsustainable operating deficit of $36.8 million in two years, growing to $225 million in ten years unless changes are made. Metro has raised fares only three times during the past 19 years and has among the lowest fares of major transit agencies in the United States. Because of the current transfer policy, Metro customers must pay full fare every time they switch from one train or bus to another. Metro customer surveys indicate more than half of our riders transfer to reach their destinations and the transfer policy impacts a large number of riders who must transfer at least once to reach their destination. If adopted, a free transfer feature would make it possible for riders to board an unlimited number of buses and trains for a 90 minute period for a single fare. This transfer feature would be a benefit to Metro riders.  No changes can occur before the Metro Board votes to approve them. The first possible opportunity for this will be in May 2014. The earliest date new fares could take effect is Monday, September 1, 2014.**Essays by Noted Authors About Union Station Featured at Downtown Bookfest**The work of three local, noted authors who have written essays for Metro celebrating Union Station’s 75th anniversary will be featured at Grand Park’s Downtown Bookfest on Saturday, March 29, 2014. The authors, D. J. Waldie, Alissa Walker and poet Marisela Norte are longtime Metro riders and are all car-free. Their creative essays reflect on Union Station’s history and architecture, and the experience of taking transit in Los Angeles. The essays will be available as part of a longer printed publication at the Union Station anniversary event on Saturday, May 3, 2014.**Caltrans** **Interstate 5 Construction Notices**Between Pico Canyon Road/Lyons Avenue and SR-14The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will implement closures as part of a project to construct truck lanes on I-5 between Pico Canyon Road/Lyons Avenue and the Antelope Valley Freeway (SR-14). Closures are scheduled to begin Sunday, March 30, 2014 and continue through Saturday, April 5, 2014. To view the Caltrans notice, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/140328_I-5_Truck_Lanes.pdf).Between SR-118 to SR-170The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) plans to implement the closures as part of a project that is constructing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV or carpool) lanes and a direct HOV lane connector at the I-5/SR-170 interchange. Closures are scheduled to begin Sunday, March 30, 2014 and continue through Friday, April 4, 2014. To view the Caltrans notice, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/140328_I-5_HOV.pdf).**Procurement Postings for Next Week**Graffiti Graffiti Paint Out (IFB)Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure the services of contractor(s) to provide Graffiti Paint Out. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Tuesday, April 1, 2014 through Tuesday, September 30, 2014. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Thomas Meng, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1074.Production Rail Grinder (IFB)Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure a Production Rail Grinder. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, April 2, 2014 through Tuesday, September 30, 2014. A Production Rail Grinder is required to remove corrugation and other surface defects to produce designated rail track profiles on multiple rail lines. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Mona Ismail, Sr. Contract Administrator, ismailm@metro.net at (213) 922-7376.Services for HVAC Compressor Overhaul (IFB)Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure services for HVAC compressor overhaul for the Metro Red Line cars. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Tuesday, April 1, 2014 to Tuesday, May 13, 2014. Overhaul of the HVAC compressor assembly is required to support the maintenance and repair/overhaul program on Metro’s Red Line cars. These services are essential to ensure that the HVAC compressor’s performance is in accordance with the manufacturer’s performance criteria. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Jessica Omohundro, Buyer, at 213-922-1048.Security and TPIS Installation at Harbor Transitway and El Monte Busway Stations (IFB)Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for a bid-build project of the Security and TPIS Installation at Harbor Transitway and El Monte Busway Stations. This is a firm-fixed-price procurement to furnish and install Close Circuit Television (CCTV) video surveillance equipment, wireless broadband communications equipment, wireless mesh network, an “Out of Service” elevator indication system and Transportation Passenger Information System (TPIS) equipment for three (3) Harbor Transitway Stations and two (2) El Monte Stations. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Tuesday, April 1, 2014 through Monday, July 14, 2014. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Arlene Blazevic, MPA, Contract Administrator at (213) 922-2516. Seat Belts (IFB)Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure operator Seat Belts. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Tuesday, April 1, 2014 through Sunday, August 31, 2014. Seat Belts are needed to maintain a safe condition for the bus operators and comply with legal requirements. Award of a contract will provide a commitment from the supplier to ensure availability at a fixed, competitive price. Any inquiries from the public concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Tanya Allen, Procurement Planning Administrator, at (213) 922-1018 or allent@metro.net.**Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events**Next week I will be accepting an award from NTI for the Multi-Agency Exchange (MAX) Program, meeting with Councilman Tom LaBonge, attending the New Flyer Bus Event, and meeting with Sheriff John Scott. Lastly, I will be attending the Passenger Rail Summit to be held at Metro. |
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