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| |  | | --- | | **Wednesday, May 8, 2013 130508-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon Authors Letter Supporting Metro New Starts Projects**  **White House Nomination For New Transportation Secretary Is Formally Submitted To United States Senate** | | |
| **Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon Authors Letter Supporting Metro New Starts Projects**  Today, Congressman Howard “Buck” McKeon (R-25) authored a letter to the Chairman and Ranking members of the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development to express his support for the federal New Starts program. In the correspondence to Chairman Tom Latham (R-IA) and Ranking Member Ed Pastor (D-AZ), Congressman McKeon shared that New Starts funding will help carryout funding for two New Starts projects in Los Angeles County. According to the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, construction of our agency’s New Starts projects would create over 66,000 jobs (17,300 jobs related to the Regional Connector and 59,030 jobs related to the Purple Line Extension). Please find [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130508_New_Starts_Letter_to_Appropriations_McKeon.pdf) a copy of the letter authored by Congressman McKeon.  Last month, twelve other members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation co-authored a letter to express their strong support for the New Starts program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA). That correspondence, circulated by Congresswoman Janice Hahn (D-44), a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, urged the Chairman and Ranking member of the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development to provide $1.9 billion for the New Starts program in their Fiscal Year 2014 spending bill. Please find [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130508_NEWEST_new_starts_letter.pdf) a copy of the Congressional New Start letter co-authored by members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation.  Our agency will continue to closely monitor Congressional actions related to the funding of all federal transportation programs. We thank Congressman McKeon for his letter that was released today and all other members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation for their consistent support of our ongoing efforts to enhance the mobility of their constituents.  **White House Nomination For New Transportation Secretary Is Formally Submitted To United States Senate**  Yesterday, President Obama formally submitted the nomination of Anthony Renard Foxx, of North Carolina, to be the next U.S. Secretary of Transportation. Last week, President Obama held a press event to announce his intention to nominate Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx to serve as his next Transportation Secretary. Mayor Foxx, who would replace outgoing Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, is currently serving his second term as the Mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina. Mayor Foxx has previously worked at the U.S. Department of Justice and later served as a staff member for the House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary. During his tenure as Mayor of Charlotte several infrastructure projects have been advanced, including the expansion of the city’s LYNX streetcar, the creation of the Charlotte Regional Intermodal Facility and building a new runway at Charlotte/Douglas International Airport. The U.S. Senate is expected to hold confirmation hearings on the Foxx nomination later this month.  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130508_New_Starts_Letter_to_Appropriations_McKeon.pdf>  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130508_NEWEST_new_starts_letter.pdf> |
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