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| **Wednesday, September 16, 2009**  **20090916-1**  In this issue:   * **U.S. Senate Expected To Adopt Legislation Extending SAFETEA-LU** * **Valley Industrial Association of Santa Clarita** * **VICA Transportation Committee** |
| **U.S. Senate Expected To Adopt Legislation Extending SAFETEA-LU**  The U.S. Senate is expected to adopt legislation shortly that extends, for another 18 months, our nation’s surface transportation program. The current program expires on September 30, 2009. The U.S. House of Representatives is reportedly considering a three month extension of the surface transportation law. The Senate bill will seek to transfer $20 billion from the general fund to the Highway Trust Fund. If adopted, the Senate bill would represent the third time in less than twelve months that Congress has transferred funds from the general fund to the Highway Trust Fund. Government relations staff and our federal advocates are closely monitoring the consideration of legislation to extend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).  **Valley Industrial Association of Santa Clarita**  Yesterday, Regional Communications Manager Ann Kerman provided the keynote address on Transportation and Mobility at the Valley Industrial Association of Santa Clarita’s luncheon meeting. The meeting, held at the Valencia Country Club, was attended by over 70 key Santa Clarita Valley business and community leaders. Staff presented an overview of Measure R and upcoming projects as well as the employer benefits available through Metro’s rideshare and vanpool programs.  **VICA Transportation Committee**  Metro General Manager Richard Hunt had the opportunity yesterday to update members of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association’s (VICA) Transportation Committee on the Orange Line Extension project and San Fernando Valley projects listed in Measure R and the Draft Long Range Transportation Plan. VICA, a business advocacy organization in the San Fernando Valley, is a long time supporter of our programs and a strong voice for public transportation and mobility. |
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