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| **Monday, December 17, 2012 121217-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Ms. Yvonne Burke is Nominated for the Commerce Committee’s Consideration as Director on Amtrak Board of Directors**  **Media Inquires on Metro and LAWA Collaboration to Connect LAX to Metro System**  **Monthly Green Tips: December 2012**  **Expo Light Rail Line Construction Notice** |
| **Ms. Yvonne Burke is Nominated for the Commerce Committee’s Consideration as Director on Amtrak Board of Directors**  The U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation announced an executive session scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday, December 18, 2012 and Ms. Yvonne B. Burke is scheduled to be nominated to be a Director on the Amtrak Board of Directors. Ms. Yvonne Burke is a former Los Angeles County Supervisor and a former Metro Board Director. Please click [here](http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Hearings&ContentRecord_id=659a3f75-fad1-401f-b45f-1e107397ff0f&ContentType_id=14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group_id=b06c39af-e033-4cba-9221-de668ca1978a) to read more about the executive session scheduled for tomorrow.  **Media Inquires on Metro and LAWA Collaboration to Connect LAX to Metro System**  Today, reporters with the Los Angeles Times and the Daily Breeze inquired regarding a recently sent letter from the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to our agency highlighting their commitment to working closely with us to identify a superior connection between LAX and the Metro system. Deputy CEO Paul Taylor attended today’s meeting with the LAWA Board of Commissioners where this topic was discussed and where he also had the chance to tell reporters that Metro looks forward to cooperating with LAWA to get a connection into LAX. It was also underscored there are three options for linking to airport People Mover, not just at the central terminal area. Stories may run tomorrow.  **Metro Monthly Green Tips: December 2012**  Green tips are applicable both at work and at home, this month’s green tips focuses on what you can do as the temperatures continue to drop. Now that we are left the warm weather of summer and are well into the winter season there are new sustainable choices you can make as you get ready for these cooler temperatures and holiday season.  Going green all at once is too much for almost anyone to accomplish. Instead, try adding a few more ideas each month, or pick one from a past months green tips. You'll be surprised at how many changes you can make in just a year.  **1. Reduce waste on these items during the holiday season:** Shopping bags - Thousands of paper and plastic shopping bags end up in landfills every year. Tell store clerks you don't need a bag for small or oversized purchases.  Christmas Trees - Approximately 33 million live Christmas trees are sold in North America every year. After the holidays, look for ways to recycle or reuse your tree instead of sending it to a landfill. Check with your community solid waste department and find out if they collect and mulch trees. Fireplace Ashes - If you have a wood-burning fireplace, save your ashes in a tin instead of throwing them away. Cold wood ashes can be mixed in your compost heap to create a valuable soil amendment that provides nutrients to your garden.  **2. E-cycle your old electronics:** Did you know that Metro has a comprehensive electronic recycling program at work? There are ways you can recycle your home electronics too. According to the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA), Americans now own approximately 24 electronic products per household. With new technology introduced every day and the majority purchased during the holiday season all these new and more powerful computers, HDTVs, and combination wireless phone and internet, do you wonder where all the old electronics go? You're not alone; that's why EPA launched a campaign to get the word out about opportunities to reuse and recycle your old computers, TVs, and cell phones check it out [here](http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/partnerships/plugin/index.htm).  **3. Check your home’s ducts:** It's the time of year when homes have their highest energy demand of the year. Heating accounts for 34% of all annual utility usage and is part of what makes an average home twice the emitter of carbon dioxide emissions as a vehicle. Here is a way to reduce the demand for expensive space heating. Check the ducts. To ensure that as much warm air as possible is delivered through your central system, check the ductwork and wrap any leaks with duct mastic. Distribution losses (what's lost while air is transported from your furnace through ductwork to the vents) often amounts to 30%. So, sealing ductwork could increase efficiency and the warm air you receive considerably ... keeping you warmer and making your furnace work less.  By implementing this month’s green tips into your office, your home and your everyday life you’ll help in building a more sustainable and future!  **Expo Light Rail Line Construction Notice**  Relocation of On-Street and Underground Utilities As part of the construction of phase 2 of the Expo Light Rail Line, work crews will continue the relocation of various existing on-street and underground utilities currently located along National Boulevard, Palms Boulevard and Exposition Boulevard in the city of Los Angeles. The work is being managed and performed by the Expo Phase 2 design-build contractor *Skanska-Rados Joint Venture (SRJV)*, and its subcontractors. This construction work is scheduled to begin on Monday, December 17, 2012 and continue through March 8, 2013. Work hours are scheduled from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday through Sunday. To view the complete construction notice, please click [here](http://www.buildexpo.org/pdf_uploads/cons_mieccd4bua.pdf).  <http://www.buildexpo.org/pdf_uploads/cons_mieccd4bua.pdf> | |
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