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| **Monday, July 16, 2012 120716-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Ribbon-Cutting Celebration for I-210 Soundwall in Arcadia and Monrovia**  **Metro/Expo CEO’s Issue Joint Statement Regarding CPUC Directive for Blue Line/Expo Junction**  **metro.net Update - Audio of Board of Directors Meetings Now Online**  **I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project**  **Metro Blue Line Delays** |
| **Ribbon-Cutting Celebration for I-210 Soundwall in Arcadia and Monrovia**  This morning, I joined Metro Board Chair Michael Antonovich and Metro Board Director John Fasana at a ribbon-cutting celebration in Arcadia for the completion of the soundwall on Interstate 210 located in the Cities of Arcadia and Monrovia. Also in attendance were Arcadia Mayor Bob Harbicht, Arcadia City Clerk Gene Glasco, Monrovia Mayor Mary Ann Lutz, District 7 Caltrans Director Michael Miles and Metro Executive Director for Highway Program Doug Failing. This $17.5 million project built approximately 2 miles of soundwalls on the westbound and eastbound of I-210 freeway between Santa Anita Avenue and California Avenue. Metro contributed to this effort with Measure R funds to construct and manage the project. Media coverage included Channel 7 KABC News, Channel LA 18, San Gabriel Tribune, Pasadena Star News, Arcadia Patch, Sing Tao Daily and World Journal LA.  **Metro/Expo CEO’s Issue Joint Statement Regarding CPUC Directive for Blue Line/Expo Junction**  Today, Expo Construction Authority CEO Rick Thorpe and I issued a joint statement regarding the recently received [letter](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120716_Letters_CPUC_to_LACMTA_and_Expo_Construction_Auth.pdf) from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) requesting a replacement to a piece of track work at the Metro Expo/Blue Line junction. Both Thorpe and I also talked with the Los Angeles Times about the next steps that will include better defining exactly what the CPUC wants and how both agencies can work together to develop a plan of action and implementation. Please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120716_Expo_Junction_Statement.pdf) to view the joint statement issued today.  [**http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB\_Attachments/120716\_Letters\_CPUC\_to\_LACMTA\_and\_Expo\_Construction\_Auth.pdf**](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120716_Letters_CPUC_to_LACMTA_and_Expo_Construction_Auth.pdf)  [**http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB\_Attachments/120716\_Expo\_Junction\_Statement.pdf**](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120716_Expo_Junction_Statement.pdf)  **metro.net Update - Audio of Board of Directors Meetings Now Online**  Can't make a particular Metro Board of Directors meeting but are interested in hearing what occurred? Metro's Research & Records Department, in conjunction with Communications web staff, have made Board meeting recordings available online so that those with an internet connection can now listen to [meeting audio recordings](http://www.metro.net/about/board/agendas-2012/) in the convenience of their homes, offices or via smart phone. To begin listening to audio, simply point your browser to our Archived Agendas page and plug-in your headphones. Files are in MP3 format.  **I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project**  Several media outlets have inquired about the suspension of traffic control officers, particularly on Sunset Boulevard, as part of I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements project mitigations for the Wilshire Ramp closures. Project staff reported that the I-405 Project engineering team, along with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), will be evaluating requirements for traffic officers on an ongoing basis, and if warranted, the project will return traffic officers to appropriate locations. Three weeks ago traffic officers were placed at 17 locations to specifically mitigate traffic for the Wilshire ramp closures. After the first week, traffic officer deployment was reduced to six locations but extended for an additional two weeks. The project is planning to return the officers to their original locations starting the week of August 13, 2012 when schools return to session in anticipation of additional traffic volumes. In September, the Sunset Bridge is expected to return to full capacity, which will help improve traffic conditions on Sunset Boulevard. While the reconstruction work at Sunset Boulevard will be an improvement, peak-hour congestion on Sunset Boulevard has long been and will continue to be an ongoing issue for neighboring communities. Metro continues to advise motorists to plan ahead, adjust travel times or share the ride. KNBC 4, KCBS 2/9, KNX and Brentwood Patch have made inquires, with stories running this week.  **Metro Blue Line Delays**  Metro Blue Line Rail Operations Control Center reports it is now responding to a damaged overhead catenary system between Wardlow and Willow stations. Trains are single tracking between Del Amo and Willow Stations, with Metro Blue Line passenger delays of 25-minutes anticipated for up to an hour. Media Relations has updated City News Service on the delays. | |
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