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| **Wednesday, October 10, 2012 121010-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Dedication of New El Monte Station**  **East San Fernando Valley Project Concludes Community Update Meetings**  **2013 Call for Projects**  **Expo Phase 2 Light Rail Line Construction Notices** |
| **Dedication of New El Monte Station**  Today, I joined Metro Board Directors Gloria Molina, John Fasana and Pam O’Connor and Representative Grace Napolitano, State Senator Ed Hernandez, Assemblymember Mike Eng, and other local elected officials to dedicate the new state-of-the-art El Monte Station designed to increase daily bus passenger capacity by 82 percent from 22,000 daily riders to 40,000 daily riders. The new El Monte Station, under construction since September 2010, is now completed and ready for passenger service, opening to the public on Sunday, October 14, 2012. The new bus facility is the largest bus station west of Chicago and is twice the size of the old facility, which opened in 1973, and is now equipped with a variety of modern amenities, including variable message signs, intercoms, closed circuit television, solar panels, wayfinding equipment and information displays, new elevators and escalators, a transit store, bike stations and lockers. The $60 million project is part of Metro’s ExpressLanes program and will provide more travel opportunities by improving bus connections and adding more bus service along the ExpressLanes. It was built as part of a $210 million federal grant. Numerous media outlets attended today’s dedication ceremony including: channels 7, 34 & 18, the Los Angeles Times, the San Gabriel Valley Tribune, La Opinion, Sing Tao Newspapers, Chinese Daily News and KNX/KFWB radio. Stories are expected to run throughout the day and tomorrow.  **East San Fernando Valley Project Concludes Community Update Meetings**  Yesterday, the East San Fernando Valley Project team completed the last of four community update meetings held throughout the study corridor. Now conducting an Alternatives Analysis (AA), the meetings provided an update on the project and an overview of the options being considered. This included four potential alignments for a bus rapid transit (BRT) alternative and two potential alignments for a light rail transit (LRT) alternative.  Approximately 150 people attended the meetings in person and 14 participated in the live web-stream of the meeting that was held on October 4, 2012. The Honorable Antonio Lopez, Mayor pro Tempore of the City of San Fernando attended the meeting held near that community. Also attending were representatives from the Offices of State Senator Alex Padilla, Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board Director Zev Yaroslavsky, as well as Los Angeles City Council Members Richard Alarcon, Tony Cardenas, Paul Koretz and Paul Krekorian. Reporters for the Los Angeles Times, San Fernando Sun also attended the meetings.  Public input that is received through October 16, 2012 will be considered as part of the AA. Early in the new year, staff intends to share the results of the report with the San Fernando City Council, Los Angeles City Council, and the Metro Board of Directors prior to beginning the Draft EIS/EIR for this project.  **2013 Call for Projects**  Today, Countywide Planning staff held a very well-attended workshop for 2013 Call for Projects’ potential project applicants. The purpose of the Workshop was to provide information on the new program requirements, evaluation criteria and schedule as well as to provide applicants with a forum to ask questions. Participants were also given the opportunity to attend a series of break-out sessions with each of the modal leads to obtain additional technical information before submitting their applications on January 18, 2013.  Approximately 150 people attended today’s workshop. Over the next month, five subregional workshops will be held throughout the County. The draft Call application package will be presented for Board consideration in October.  **Expo Phase 2 Light Rail Line Construction Notices**  Relocation of Water Line  As part of the construction of Phase 2 of the Expo Light Rail Line, work crews will relocate an existing water line currently located Westwood 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. Work will take place on the northbound lane on Westwood Boulevard between North and South Exposition Boulevards. Work is scheduled on Monday, October 15, 2012 through Friday, November 16, 2012. Work hours are scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. No work will take place on weekends. To view the complete construction notice, please click [here](http://www.buildexpo.org/pdf_uploads/cons_n551n1kw03.pdf).  Relocation of Water Line  As part of the construction of Phase 2 of the Expo Light Rail Line, work crews will relocate an existing water line currently located on Bagley Avenue 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. Work will take place on Bagley Avenue between Exposition Boulevard and Harlow Avenue. Work is scheduled on Monday, October 15, 2012 through Friday, November 30, 2012. Work hours are scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. No work will take place on weekends. To view the complete construction notice, please click [here](http://www.buildexpo.org/pdf_uploads/cons_kto5i6yd6q.pdf). | |
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