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| **Wednesday, August 7, 2013 130807-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Metro’s Safe Routes to School Pilot Program**  **New styling and graphics planned for Metro rail vehicles** |
| **Metro’s Safe Routes to School Pilot Program**  With another school year set to begin, increased traffic and high gas prices can make driving to school an unpleasant experience for parents and students alike. In response, our agency’s recently launched Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Pilot Program will help schools, parents, and students develop safe and active travel options. The pilot program is part of a larger effort by Metro, in partnership with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), to develop a Countywide Safe Routes to School Strategic Plan, which will identify strategies to help cities and local communities establish new SRTS programs. Ten schools within Los Angeles County have been selected to participate in this SRTS Pilot Program, and Metro is planning workshops and activities with the chosen schools and local communities. As part of the program, we will be helping the schools implement Walk/Bike to School Days, hold community and school events, work with the school to develop pedestrian and bicycle travel plans, and provide opportunities for children to learn about pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit safety. The end goal of SRTS is to create an environment where children can get active while getting to school safely. In addition, by encouraging kids to walk or bike to school, SRTS hopes to reduce congestion related to school travel, which will also benefit traffic and air quality in local neighborhoods. For the full article regarding our involvement in SRTS and other school commute alleviation options, please click [here.](http://www.metro.net/news/simple_pr/walk-bike-or-ride-back-school-safe-routes-school/)  <http://www.metro.net/news/simple_pr/walk-bike-or-ride-back-school-safe-routes-school/>  **New Styling and Graphics Planned for Metro Rail Vehicles**  On Tuesday, August 6, 2013,  a group of Metro stakeholders visited the Division 12 Blue Line yard in Long Beach to view a test rail vehicle mocked up with new graphics designed by Metro’s Creative Services group. The distinctive styling and graphics are destined for new rail cars Metro is set to purchase from Kinkisharyo International, as well as the entire rail fleet, including existing vehicles. The test vehicle with the new trimmings will roll out in our system next week and be under close performance assessment. Slight variations and tweaks may occur until the styling is perfected and agreed to by Metro department stakeholders for both operational maintenance and aesthetics. For the complete story as posted on The Source, including pictures, please click [here.](http://thesource.metro.net/2013/08/07/new-train-car-designs-in-the-works/)  <http://thesource.metro.net/2013/08/07/new-train-car-designs-in-the-works/>  [Metro.net Home](http://www.metro.net/) | [Press Room](http://www.metro.net/news_info/default.htm) | [Projects & Programs](http://www.metro.net/projects_plans/default.htm) | [Meeting Agendas](http://www.metro.net/board/mtgsched.htm) | [Riding Metro](http://www.metro.net/riding_metro/default.htm) | [Metro Library](http://www.metro.net/library)  Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  1 Gateway Plaza  Los Angeles, California 90012-2952  Phone: 213-922-6888 Fax: 213-922-7447 |