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| **Friday, May 24, 2013130524-1****In this Issue:****Media Covers Community Celebration of Leimert Park Metro Station****I-405 Lane Opening Press Event****24th Annual California Transportation Foundation Awards****2013 American Council of Engineering Companies Los Angeles Chapter Achievement Annual Banquet****I-5 North Caltrans Construction Notices Available on Metro.net****Procurement Postings for Next Week****Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events** |
| **Media Covers Community Celebration of Leimert Park Metro Station**Today, Metro Board Members Antonio Villaraigosa, Mark Ridley-Thomas and Mel Wilson were joined by Los Angeles City Council member Jan Perry and other community leaders to celebrate the funding of the future Crenshaw/LAX Leimert Park Station. The 8.5 mile Crenshaw/LAX line, expected to open in late 2018, will connect existing rail service on the Green Line with the Expo Line. On Wednesday, May 22, 2013 the L.A. City Council voted for and the Mayor approved a motion to commit $40 million in Measure R local return funds for an underground station at Leimert Park. On Thursday, May 23, 2013 our Board Members voted to contribute $80 million to fully fund Leimert Park Station. The station is expected to improve local transit options, create jobs and invigorate local economy. Media covering the event included channels 2/9, 4, 5, 7, 11 and local print media. **I-405 Lane Opening Press Event**Today, I joined Board Members Antonio Villaraigosa and Richard Katz at a press conference in West Los Angeles to officially open an additional general purpose lane on the northbound I-405 between the I-10 and Santa Monica Boulevard as part of the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project. The new 1.7-mile lane, which opened early this morning, is expected to provide congestion relief benefits for motorists navigating the northbound I-405 at the I-10 interchange, one of the most congested freeway interchanges in the nation. The project team anticipates releasing another 1.4 miles of general purpose lane to reach north of Wilshire Boulevard in a second opening phase next month. The No. 1 lane closest to the freeway median will later be converted into the future High Occupancy Vehicle Lane. This effort is designed to return portions of the project to full functionality as soon as possible to help reduce construction-related impacts to both motorists and West Los Angeles residents. Metro has committed to opening parts of the project as soon as they are ready for public use. Media Relations staff also provided 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. live media interviews. Numerous media covered the lane opening, including KCBS 2/ KCAL 9, KNBC 4 Telemundo 52, KTLA 5, KABC 7, KTTV 11/KCAL 13, 18LA, KBS Korea, KTVK, KNX Radio, Los Angeles Times, Korea Daily and Daily News.  Stories are expected to run today and over the weekend.  **24th Annual California Transportation Foundation Awards**Yesterday, our agency was well represented at the 24th Annual California Transportation Foundation Awards in Sacramento. Approximately 200 people attended the ceremony which honored the best in California transportation professionals, projects and programs. Metro Board Director Mark Ridley-Thomas won the Elected Official of the Year award. The Metro Orange Line Extension won for large transit project of the year, and El Monte Station was a top-three finalist. The I-110 ExpressLanes won the Operations Efficiency Program of the Year award and was also a finalist for the Public Outreach Program of the Year. In addition, the I-5/SR 14 HOV Direct Connector was a finalist for the Interchange Project of the Year. **2013 American Council of Engineering Companies Los Angeles Chapter Achievement Annual Banquet**Last night our agency was presented with the 2013 American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Los Angeles Chapter Achievement Client of the Year Award, our Diversity and Economic Opportunity Department (DEOD) was presented with the Small Business Champion Award and Stephanie Wiggins, Executive Officer of the Congestion Reduction Initiative, was presented with the Engineering Achievement Award.**I-5 North Caltrans Construction Notices Available on Metro.net**I-5 North Caltrans capacity enhancement construction notices can now be found on [www.metro.net](http://www.metro.net/projects/i-5-n-capacity-enhancements/). These capacity enhancements will enhance safety, improve traffic flow, reduce congestion, encourage ridesharing, decrease surface street traffic and improve air quality. **Procurement Postings for Next Week**Accelerated Regional transportation Improvements (ARTI) Project (RFQ)Procurement will release a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) next week for the purpose of identifying teams to shortlist and subsequently be invited to submit proposals to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the ARTI Project. A new Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy, subject to FHWA approval, is anticipated to be applicable to this Procurement. Teams that are shortlisted based on their Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) submitted in response to the RFQ, will be invited to propose to enter into a Public-Private Partnership (P3) agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to implement the ARTI Project using a design, build, finance, operate, and maintain (DBFOM) project delivery method. Metro is conducting this procurement in cooperation with Caltrans, and Metro and Caltrans are co-sponsors of the ARTI Project. This procurement was considered by the Metro Board on July 26, 2012, as Agenda Item 21. D&E, *Commencement of the procurement process and delivery of the Highway Goods Movement Package (aka ARTI) as a PPP project pursuant to the provisions of California Streets and Highways Code Section 143*. This item was approved by the Metro Board at that meeting. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 29, 2013 through at least October 31, 2014. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Don Dwyer at (213) 922-6387 or Tom Frawley at (213) 922-7329.Project Management and Quality Assurance/Control Support Services forLos Angeles County (RFP)Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure project management and quality assurance/control support services for the delivery of Highway Capital projects (including Measure R and non-Measure R Highway projects) throughout the Los Angeles County. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 28, 2013 through November 30, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Aielyn Dumaua, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7320.West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor Project Technical Refinement Study (RFP)Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure planning consulting services for the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor Project Technical Refinement Study. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 28, 2013 through January 6, 2014. The West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor (L.A. County segment only) is one (1) of twelve (12) transit projects funded by Measure R and is contained in Metro’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) with a revenue service date of 2027. In March 2013, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) completed the Alternatives Analysis (AA) Study of the corridor for both Los Angeles and Orange County. This Refinement Study will address the challenges raised by the AA Study for the 20-mile corridor extending from the Orange County Line to Union Station in Los Angeles County, prior to entering the environmental phase. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Samira Baghdikian, Contract Administration Manager, at (213) 922-1033.Westside Subway Extension Project, Section 1 – Design/Build (RFQ)Metro staff has completed its qualification determination of Respondents to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) C1045, for Section 1 of the Westside Subway Extension Project. Those qualified teams are listed below. The solicitation for the Westside Subway Extension, Section 1 is being performed as a two-step process to select a design-build contractor. The first step performed was a RFQ, which sought Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) that Metro received February 7, 2013. The teams qualified as a result of the first step are:* Impregilo S.p.A., Samsung E & C America, Inc., and Salini USA, Inc. (Westside Transit Partners)
* Shimmick Construction Company, Inc.; Obayashi Corporation; and FCC Construction, S.A. (Shimmick/Obayashi/FCC, a Joint Venture)
* Skanska USA Civil West California District Inc., Traylor Bros., Inc., and J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. (Skanska, Traylor and Shea, a joint Venture)
* Dragados USA, Inc. (DUSA), Southland Contracting, Inc., and Astaldi Construction Corporation (Dragados/Southland/Astaldi (DSA) a Joint Venture)

The second step in the solicitation process is a Request for Proposals (RFP), which will be available in the near future. The procurement black-out period continues until staff presents the board with a contract award recommendation. The black-out period is expected to last through August 2014. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the black-out period must be directed to Eva Rodriguez, Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1034 or at rodrigueze@metro.net.**Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events**Next week, I will have lunch with Chairman Bill Shuster, House Transportation Committee and have dinner with Chairman John J. Duncan, Jr, Special Freight Panel. I will also attend the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Quarterly Review Meeting, Association of California Cities-Orange County (ACC-OC) 4th Annual Infrastructure Summit, and a luncheon with California Chapter of the American Public Works Association. Also, I will attend the America Public Transportation Association (APTA) Rail Conference in Philadelphia. Have a safe and fun Memorial Day holiday.  |
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