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| **Friday, October 12, 2009**  **20091012-1**  In this issue:   * **Metro Urges U.S. Senators Boxer and Inhofe to Include Funds for Transit in Climate Change Bill** * **Governor Schwarzenegger Signs and Vetoes Over 700 Pieces of Legislation** * **Eastside Phase 2 Open House – UPDATE** * **Expo Construction Notice** |
| **Metro Urges U.S. Senators Boxer and Inhofe to Include Funds for Transit in Climate Change Bill**  I have co-authored a letter to the Chair and Ranking members of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee to urge that the climate change bill they consider include a dedicated source of funding for transit and smart growth initiatives. In May of this year the Board unanimously endorsed legislation (H.R. 1329) that seeks to set aside 10% of emission allowances from any climate change bill for transit and other transportation programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The correspondence to Chair Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Ranking member James Inhofe (R-OK) highlights the fact that the transportation sector accounts for 28% of all green house gas emissions. The U.S. Senate EPW Committee is slated to begin hearings on a climate change bill this month. Our agency will continue to vigorously make the case that any climate change bill must direct at least 10% of emission allowances for transit and other transportation programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/epw__Oct_12_2009_15_20_50_169.pdf>  **Governor Schwarzenegger Signs and Vetoes Over 700 Pieces of Legislation**  Yesterday, Governor Schwarzenegger took action on over 700 bills that remained on his desk. The following summarizes his actions relating to bills on which the Board had taken a position.  AB 672 (Bass) – **Signed into law**. AB 672 is a bill sponsored by both Metro and our counterparts in the Bay Area, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission which allows local agencies to advance funds for state bond funded projects.  AB 798 (Nava) – **Signed into law**. AB 798 creates the California Transportation Financing Authority which will provide a new mechanism to approve transportation projects using innovative financing. The Board adopted a support position on this bill.  AB 1072 (Eng) – **Signed into law**. AB 1072 establishes the specific calculations for allocating public transit funds from Proposition 1B. The bond measure requires the use of the State Transit Assistance Account formula which changes over time. AB 1072 locks in a specific allocation which guarantees shares from the program and will ensure we receive a fair amount from this category. The Board adopted a support position on this bill.  AB 1381 (Perez) – **Signed into law**. AB 1381 is another Metro sponsored measure which makes technical corrections to the statute authorizing Metro’s Express Lanes project.  AB 1471 (Eng) – **Signed in law**. AB 1471 makes modifications to our procurement statutes. Metro is the sponsor of this measure.  SB 545 (Cedillo) – **Vetoed**.  SB 545 would have prohibited a surface route for completion of State Route 710. The Board adopted a Work with Author position on this measure. Please see the attached link to access the Governor’s veto message.  <http://gov.ca.gov/pdf/press/2009bills/SB545_Cedillo_Veto_Message.pdf>  **Eastside Phase 2 Open House - UPDATE**  Two Community Open Houses will be held for the Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 Study on October 20 and 22, 2009. The purpose of these open houses is to provide a project update and describe the next steps as the study analyzes feasible routes to extend the Gold Line Eastside Extension Phase 1 to cities farther east of Los Angeles.  Meeting Details:  Tuesday, October 20, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Montebello Golf Course  901 Via San Clemente  Camino Conference Room  Montebello  Thursday, October 22, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  Pio Pico Women’s Club  9214 Mines Avenue  Pico Rivera  **Expo Construction Notice**  This construction notice is regarding the temporary closures of 11th Avenue/Degnan Boulevard and 7th Avenue in the Mid-Corridor portion of the Expo Light Rail alignment.  **What:** Temporary Street Closures for Track Crossing Installation  **When:**  **11th Avenue/Degnan Boulevard**  Friday, October 16, 2009 through Monday, October 19, 2009  Weekend work hours: Friday at 11:00 p.m. through Monday at 6:00 a.m.  **7th Avenue**  Friday, October 23, 2009 through Monday, October 26, 2009  Weekend work hours: Friday at 11:00 p.m. through Monday at 6:00 a.m.  **Where:** 11th Avenue/Degnan Boulevard and 7th Avenue will be closed at the intersection with Exposition Boulevard along the Expo right-of-way  **Traffic Impacts:**   * **NO pedestrian access or vehicular traffic** will be allowed to cross the right-of-way of Exposition Boulevard by using 11th Avenue/Degnan Boulevard or 7th Avenue during this construction activity. * Northbound traffic on 11th Avenue/Degnan Boulevard and 7th Avenue will be detoured onto eastbound Rodeo Road. Southbound traffic on 11th Avenue/Degnan Boulevard and 7th Avenue will be detoured onto westbound Exposition Boulevard. * Flagmen and directional signage will be used to safely direct drivers around the construction zones in order to minimize the disruption to traffic.   **Advisories**:   Parking restrictions in all construction areas will be strictly enforced at all times. Please do not enter the construction work zone and obey all posted construction signs. |
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