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| **Monday, July 1, 2013 130701-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Gate Latching Accelerated**  **Security Cell Phone App Serves as a Lead for Incident on Metro Blue Line**  **Metro ExpressLanes: A 2013 Excellence in Transportation Award Winner**  **CBS Evening News with Scott Pelley Features Metro's Bridge Program**  **Release Informs Media That Diane DuBois is New Metro Board Chair**  **Procurement Postings for This Week** |
| **Gate Latching Accelerated**    The permanent latching of the Red and Purple Lines that began on June 19, 2013 at Union Station has been going smoothly. After an assessment by staff, it was determined that the schedule for latching remaining stations on the Red and Purple Lines could be accelerated. The schedule, originally set to be completed by the end of August, will now finish up at the beginning of that month, with the final stations set to latch by Monday, August 5, 2013. The second round of gate latching was completed today, July 1, 2013 at Wilshire/Western, Wilshire/Normandie and Vermont/Beverly. A fully revised latching schedule is available at [metro.net/latching](http://metro.net/latching).  **Security Cell Phone App Serves as a Lead for Incident on Metro Blue Line**  On Thursday, June 27, 2013, a patron reported gambling activities on the Blue Line using the recently launched Metro Security App. The patron was able to report the incident and initiate an investigation. I am pleased to hear that our riders are utilizing the App and feel empowered to enhance the safety of Metro buses and trains.  **Metro ExpressLanes: A 2013 Excellence in Transportation Award Winner**  Today, Caltrans Headquarters announced that the Metro ExpressLanes is the 2013 Excellence in Transportation Winner for the System Operations category. There were 80 entries from local and public agencies, private contractors, consultants, and Caltrans, which were reviewed by a panel of judges who included professional engineers, environmental specialists, transportation planners, and the Seismic Advisory Board. Director Malcolm Dougherty congratulated awardees, “…for their hard work to build and maintain a transportation system that improves mobility across California, enhances safety for travelers, preserves and enhances California's resources, and supports the California economy.” This award marks the sixth award received for the Metro ExpressLanes since February of this year, followed by the Automobile Club of Southern California, International Partnering Institute, Caltrans District 7 Partnering, California Transportation Foundation, and the American Council of Engineering Companies. To view a complete list of the 2013 Excellence in Transportation Award winners, please click [here](http://www.dot.ca.gov/awards/winners/13winners.htm). <http://www.dot.ca.gov/awards/winners/13winners.htm>  **CBS Evening News with Scott Pelley Features Metro's Bridge Program**  Los Angeles-based CBS correspondent Ben Taylor conducted an interview with one of the graduates of Metro's Bridge program, which is operated with Los Angeles Valley College. The subject was a man, aged 58, who hopes to begin a new career as a Metro bus operator. The story highlights the difficulty older workers have finding career positions. The graduate repeatedly thanked Metro for the opportunity and specifically mentioned that if a former bus driver is now a CEO, the possibilities at our agency are endless. The story is scheduled to run Friday, July 5, 2013.  **Release Informs Media That Diane DuBois is New Metro Board Chair**  Today, a press release was issued alerting media that City of Lakewood Councilmember Diane DuBois has taken over as chair of Metro's Board of Directors, effective today, July 1, 2013. To view the full press release posted on the metro website, please click [here](http://www.metro.net/news/simple_pr/city-lakewood-councilmember-diane-dubois-becomes-n/).  **Procurement Postings for This Week**  Architectural, Engineering and Construction Services for Union/Patsaouras Plaza Busway Station (IFB)  Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) this week to procure Architectural, Engineering and Construction services for Union/Patsaouras Plaza Busway Station. As part of the Los Angeles Congestion Reduction Demonstration Program (LA CRD), Metro and Caltrans established this project to improve bus operating efficiencies on the El Monte busway. The project consists of the following elements:   1. Relocation of the Busway patron boarding island (now situated at the corner of Alameda Street) to a new station platform located at the South end of Patsaouras Plaza. 2. Widening of the existing Caltrans Los Angeles River Busway Bridge and Overhead. 3. New Vertical and horizontal pedestrian circulation elements (Pedestrian Ramp/ Walkway, Pedestrian Overcrossing, elevators, and stairs) along the El Monte Busway and connecting to the south end of Patsaouras Plaza. 4. Closure of all vehicular traffic access between the El Monte Busway and Union Station at Patsaouras Plaza.   The Project Labor Agreement & Construction Careers Policy will apply to this Procurement. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from July 1, 2013 through December 1, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Tiffany Smith, contract administration-ELTP at (213) 922-7216 or [smithTi@metro.net](mailto:smithTi@metro.net). | |
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