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| **Friday, December 12, 2014141212-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Metro’s 19th Annual Gift Giving Drive**  **Metro Officials Announce December 15 Launch of New “Valley-Westside Express”**  **Procurement Posting For Next Week**  **Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events** |
| **Metro’s 19th Annual Gift Giving Drive**  Yesterday, Metro participated in its 19th Annual Gift Giving Drive. Metro employees donated 783 toys, blankets, and games to The Spark of Love Foundation and Fred Jordan Mission. The Spark of Love Foundation collects toys from Fire Stations throughout Los Angeles County and donates them to underserved children and teens, and the Fred Jordan Mission supports upwards of 12,000 needy children and their families during the holiday season. Metro’s toys were delivered to Fire Station No. 4 and the Mission, and were enthusiastically received by both charities. For photos from the Gift Giving Drive, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/141212_Metro_Gift_Giving_Drive.pdf).  **Metro Officials Announce December 15 Launch of New “Valley-Westside Express”**  This morning, I joined City of Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles City Councilman and Board Member Paul Krekorian, and Michael Cano representing Los Angeles County Supervisor and Board Member Michael Antonovich at the Sepulveda Metro Orange Line Station in Van Nuys to announce the agency’s new “Valley-Westside Express” bus service that officially begins this Monday, December 15, 2014. The line will utilize the recently completed I-405 carpool lane network to save approximately 20 minutes of commute time each way compared with current Metro bus service. Metro’s 45-foot advanced composite buses will provide weekday service approximately every 15 minutes during peak morning and afternoon periods. Free park & ride lots are available at both Sepulveda and Van Nuys Orange Line Stations. Officials thanked the San Fernando Valley and Westside/Central Service Councils for their assistance in developing and implementing the service. The new express bus line leverages Metro’s transportation investments in both the Valley and Westside, and achieves synergy among Metro’s transit services and highway improvements. Media coverage by KABC 7, City News Service, Daily News, Univision 34, Downtown News, L.A. City View 35 and Streetsblog L.A. Stories have appeared this morning and coverage will continue this afternoon and evening. For more information on the new service as posted on The Source, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2014/12/12/metro-announces-december-15-launch-of-new-valley-westside-express-bus-that-will-use-405-hov-lanes/).  **Pr****ocurement Posting For Next Week** Metro Bikeshare (RFP) Metro will release a Request for Proposal (RFP) next week for a Contractor to provide equipment for implementation, installation, operations, marketing and maintenance of the Metro Bikeshare System with the Pilot Phase in Downtown Los Angeles. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, December 15, 2014 through Monday, June 8, 2015. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Lily Lopez, Sr. Contract Administrator at (213) 922-4639.  **Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events**  Next week, I will be holding an Executive Workshop Retreat. I will also be attending a meeting with Assemblymember Autumn Burke and I will participate in a Menorah lighting ceremony at the Gateway Building. Lastly, I will be meeting with staff from Metrolink, County Transportation Commission CEOs, Regional CEOs and Mobility 21. | |
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