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| **Friday, February 14, 2014140214-1****In this Issue:****Beverly Hills Community Meetings Regarding Purple Line La Cienega Station****Media Covers Speed Dating on the Metro Red Line****Celebrating Black History Month****Caltrans Interstate 5 Construction Notices****Procurement Posting for Next Week****Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events** |
| **Beverly Hills Community Meetings Regarding Purple Line La Cienega Station**Yesterday, Thursday, February 13, 2014 we hosted two community meetings in Beverly Hills to discuss construction of the Wilshire/La Cienega station for the Purple Line Extension. The meetings had been requested by the Beverly Hills City Council last month when they deferred action on two of our permit requests for street work, including one for relocation of underground fiber optic cable and the other for well monitoring. Intended, one meeting was held at lunch time and the other in the early evening. Staff provided an overview of subway construction for the La Cienega station especially focusing on the utility relocation work anticipated during 2014, how we work with the City and the public, and the currently pending permit requests. To view a copy of the presentation, please click [here](http://media.metro.net/projects_studies/westside/images/bh_community_presentation_2014_0213.pdf). There were more than 130 people combined at the meetings. A representative for Assembly Member Richard Bloom attended the lunchtime meeting and Beverly Hills Vice Mayor Lili Bosse, Beverly Hills Council Member Julian Gold and Beverly Hills School Board Member Howard Goldstein were at the evening meeting. Several Beverly Hills representatives from our Section 1 Advisory Group participated in the meetings. The Beverly Hills City Engineer also spoke to the groups about how the City will evaluate subway-related permit requests. Reporters from the Beverly Hills Weekly and the Beverly Hills Courier were in attendance. Earlier today, Friday, February 14, 2014, the Courier published a story covering the meetings that incorrectly stated that construction of the La Cienega station would create a hole on Wilshire that would "remain open for at least seven years" and that we would use steel plates in the street. Major excavation and construction of the La Cienega station will occur beneath the street, after temporary concrete deck panels are installed to keep the street open for traffic. A story published on our blog The Source today clarifying this issue. To view the story on The Source, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2014/02/14/heres-the-presentation-from-thursdays-community-meeting-in-beverly-hills-about-construction-of-the-wilshirela-cienega-station-for-purple-line-extension/). We anticipate that the Beverly Hills City Council will reconsider our two pending permit requests at their meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2014.**Media Covers Speed Dating on the Metro Red Line**Today, Friday, February 14, 2014, Metro hosted Speed Dating on the Red Line to celebrate Valentine’s Day. The event was held to engage Metro riders and provide a venue for them to have fun on public transportation, and hopefully have them fall in love with Metro. From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. participants who signed in with Metro staff could ride on the designated Red Line train cars that were decorated for Valentine’s Day. Once on board, participants were encouraged to chat with each other, and they could also board any other decorated “Speed Dating Train Car” during the event time. Two Metro Cupids were also on the Red Line during the event to help foster a festive atmosphere and wish Metro riders a happy Valentine’s Day. Media came out to cover the event, interviewing Metro Media Relations staff and participating speed daters. Media covering included KABC, KCAL/KCBS, Channel 62, KBS, LA18, Channel 34, Channel 44, La Opinion, KPCC, LA Times, Korea Daily, NTDTV, Telemundo, EFE Agency, Hoy Newspaper, China Press, Fox 11. Stories are expected to run tonight and through the weekend.**Celebrating Black History Month**Metro’s Chapter of African American Employee Association (AAEA) and Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) are celebrating Black History Month throughout the month of February. Various programs are scheduled throughout the month, including film viewings and discussions, guest speakers, and live music. This year’s series will feature Metro Board Director Jackie Dupont-Walker, who will be speaking at the luncheon on Thursday, February 20, 2014, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. All events are free, however tickets will be available for purchase through Saturday, February 18, 2014 for those interested in enjoying the catered luncheon. To see the complete list of events scheduled, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/140213_AAEA_COMTO_Black_History_Month.pdf). **Caltrans Interstate 5 Construction Notices**Between Pico Canyon Road/Lyons Avenue and Antelope Valley FreewayThe California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) plans to implement closures as part of a project to construct truck lanes on I-5 between Pico Canyon Road/Lyons Avenue and the Antelope Valley Freeway (SR-14). Closures are scheduled to begin Tuesday, February 18, 2014 and continue through Saturday, February 22, 2014. To view the Caltrans construction notice, please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/140214_I-5_Truck_Lane_Project.pdf).**Procurement Posting for Next Week**Overhead Cranes Maintenance & Repair (IFB)Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure the services of contractor(s) to provide Overhead Cranes Maintenance & Repair. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, February 20, 2014 through Tuesday, September 30, 2014. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Thomas Meng, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1074.**Upcoming CEO Meeting & Events**Next week I will be joined by Metro Board Chair Diane DuBois and Board Members in conducting the final inspection of the New Flyer Buses. I will also attend February Metro Committee meetings. Lastly, I will be joining Metrolink and U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein in Announcing - Positive Train Control (PTC). |
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