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Baldwin Avenue Grade Separation Groundbreaking

Today, Metro Board Director John Fasana and I joined with the Alameda Corridor East (ACE), City of El Monte, Caltrans and USDOT to celebrate the groundbreaking for the Baldwin Avenue Grade Separation project in the City of El Monte. This project includes constructing a double-track railroad bridge with a four-lane roadway underpass along the high-volume Union Pacific Railroad freight rail mainline on the ACE Trade Corridor. The project cost is estimated at \$75.9 million. U.S. Representative Judy Chu (D-27), CTC Commissioner Fran Inman, State Senators Ed Hernandez, Carol Liu, and State Assemblymembers Ed Chau, Roger Hernandez, Norma Torres, Chris Holden and Ian Calderon also attended this event. Our agency is contributing \$14.2 million to this worthwhile project. The Baldwin Avenue Grade Separation project is slated to be completed by the Spring of 2015. For more details on the project and photos of today's event, please view the article on the Source blog [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2013/02/01/alameda-corridor-east-construction-begins-on-four-lane-roadway-underpass-at-busy-el-monte-intersection/).

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Move LA's 5th Annual Transportation Conversation Avancemos!

Today, Move LA hosted *Avancemos!*, their 5th Annual Transportation Conversation event at Union Station. Metro Board Director Zev Yaroslavsky delivered a keynote address. Metro Board Director Mel Wilson and I served on panels at the event. Together, we were joined by Metro staff and other community stakeholders invested in the shared goal to move LA forward.

The California Public Utilities Commission Approves Metro's System Safety Program Plan

Metro's System Safety Program Plan (SSPP) has been approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) which will be also reported to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This plan includes 21 elements that describe the plans, processes, and programs that Metro uses to promote safety, manage hazards, and support a

continuous environment of enhanced safety performance. The SSPP, which has to be updated and approved on an annual basis by Metro and the CPUC respectively, is also the document that is used as the basis of internal and external audits to verify our adherence and compliance with the 21 elements described in the plan.

Artesia Station Construction Project

Beginning Monday, February 4, 2013 work will begin to replace a water line and reconstruct the roadway buses operate on in Metro's Artesia Blue Line Station. This project will be done in seven phases, and is expected to take approximately 90 days to complete, weather permitting. The station will remain open to the public throughout the duration of construction. However, customers will experience some impacts during some of the phases of the project. Work includes moving bus stops at times, as different portions of the roadway will be repaved during the various phases of the project. Bus passengers will be dropped off in an alternative location during phases 1 - 4. The existing crosswalk at the station will be temporarily relocated during the entire construction period. A task force for this project has been established to manage the project. Task force representatives include representatives from all of the bus operators utilizing the station, and various Metro staff. The group has developed a comprehensive customer notification campaign. Customers are being notified that there will be increased traffic congestion at the station during this construction project, which may result in traffic delays that impact bus schedules. For more information on the project, including a description of the work performed in each of the seven phases, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2013/01/31/street-work-begins-monday-that-will-impact-bus-service-and-crosswalks-at-blue-lines-artesia-station/) for the article on The Source blog.

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Procurement Postings for Next Week

Bus Engine Parts (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure Bus Engine Parts. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from February 6, 2013 through May 31, 2013. Bus engine parts are needed to maintain the bus fleet and thus avoid disruption in service. Award of contract will provide a commitment from the supplier to ensure availability at a fixed, competitive price. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Tanya Allen, Procurement Planning Administrator, at (213) 922-1018.

Site Improvements at Divisions 2, 8, 10 & 15 (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for facility modifications to construct high strength concrete platforms at the fueling islands, and demolish existing vault houses at each of the MTA operating Divisions 2, 8, 10 & 15 as outlined in the Statement of Work. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from February 7, 2013 through April 25, 2013.

The worksite locations are:

Division 2 – 750 E. 15th Street Los Angeles, CA 90021

Division 8 – 9201 Canoga Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311

Division 10 – 742 N. Mission Road, Los Angeles, CA 90033

Division 15 – 11900 Branford Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Deneise Glover, Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-7302.

Articulation Diaphragm Assemblies (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure articulation diaphragm assemblies for the P865/P2020 light rail vehicles. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from February 5, 2013 through May 13, 2013. New articulation diaphragm assemblies are required to support the maintenance and repair/overhaul program on Metro's Blue Line P865 and P2020 light rail vehicles (LRV). Award of a contract will provide a commitment from the supplier to ensure availability at a fixed, competitive price. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Otto Ojong, Contract Administration Manager, at 213-922-1454.

Westside Subway Extension Project – Advanced Utility Relocations (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure services to relocate utilities in advance of the Westside Subway Extension Project. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from February 1, 2013 through May 7, 2013. The Work generally involves the relocation and installation of power ducts, waterlines, and sanitary sewer manholes that interfere with the future construction of the La Brea Station and Wilshire/Western Access Shaft as shown on the plans included in the specifications. This includes, but is not limited to, the verification of existing conditions of the site and related coordination, potholing, demolition, traffic management, construction and supervision. Metro's Project Labor Agreement (PLA) will apply to this project. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Sonia Gomez, Assistant Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-7247.

Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events

Next week, I will be speaking at Verdexchange Conference. Additionally, I will be meeting with Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty and Caltrans District 7 Director Michael Miles, followed by a meeting with Los Angeles Department of Transportation's General Manager Jaime De La Vega and Los Angeles World Airports' Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey. Lastly, I will meet with the Economic Development Council.

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