

Thursday, February 28, 2013  
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**In this Issue:**

**Metro Awarded New Partner of the Year by AAA**

**Draft EIS/EIR Commences for East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor**

**Metro Awarded New Partner of the Year by AAA**

Metro was presented with the “New Partner of the Year” award from the Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) at today’s Board Meeting. Metro was given this acknowledgement for the partnership forged between AAA and Metro for our ExpressLanes. AAA’s Manager of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Steve Finnegan, presented the award to the Metro Board. Metro and AAA teamed up because more than 50% of the households in LA County are AAA members. The only arrangement of its kind between AAA and a toll agency in California, the partnership encourages transponder sign-ups and provides drivers the opportunity to get their transponder at over 80 locations. This relationship has helped get the message out about Metro’s ExpressLanes. To view a picture from this morning’s award ceremony at the Metro Board Meeting, please click [here](#).

[http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB\\_Attachments/130228\\_AAA\\_awards\\_Metro.pdf](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130228_AAA_awards_Metro.pdf)

**Draft EIS/EIR Commences for East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor**

The East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor formally kicked off the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (EIS/R) with the publication today of the Notice of Intent/Preparation (NOI/NOP) in the Federal Register. The Study intends to evaluate options for a north-south project mostly within the Van Nuys Boulevard Corridor connecting Ventura Boulevard to the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station. Based on the Alternatives Analysis Study that was presented to the Board in January, the DEIS/R will look at Light Rail Transit (LRT) and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) alternatives. The Draft EIS/R formally begins with the scoping period which concludes on Monday, May 6, 2013. We will hold four public meetings between Saturday, March 16, 2013 and Wednesday, March 27, 2013. An elected officials meeting will be held on Friday, March 8, 2013. Copies of the scoping materials should be posted on the project web site tomorrow. The City of Los Angeles is serving as co-lead on this project and we are closely coordinating with the City of San Fernando. This is a first decade Measure R project. We intend to conclude this phase of the study in Fall 2014.

**an Outstanding AAA Discount Award Partner for the partnership forged with Metro Expresslanes. Metro was awarded “New Partner” 2013.**

**New partner of the year. Metro has promotional agreement to encourage transponder sign-ups, in exchange Metro gets**

**More than 50 households are triple AAA**

**Partnership allows more drivers to access transponders at over 80 locations**

**This is the only arrangement of its kind between AAA and a toll agency in California.**

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