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In this Issue:

Official Ribbon Cutting Held for HOV Direct Connector Between the 5 and 14 Freeways

Latest Update on Gold Line Foothill Extension: Work Throughout the Corridor

Procurement Postings for Next Week

Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events

Official Ribbon Cutting Held for HOV Direct Connector Between the 5 and 14 Freeways

Today, Metro Board Director Ara Najarian, Michael Cano representing Board Chair Michael Antonovich, Congressman Tony Cardenas, Assemblymembers Scott Wilk and Raul Bocanegra, City of Santa Clarita Mayor Bob Kellar and other elected officials attended the Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the I-5/SR-14 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Direct Connector project. The ceremony was hosted by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for which Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty and Caltrans District 7 Director Michael Miles attended. The project officially opened to traffic on December 23, 2012 and completed an elevated two-lane HOV connector at the I-5/SR-14 interchange that allows freeway to freeway transfer without exiting the carpool lane. Benefits of the project include reduced congestion, improved traffic flow, enhanced safety and improved traffic operations on both I-5 and SR-14 freeways. The total project cost of \$175.8 million utilized a combination of \$15.6 million in Local Proposition C funds, \$41.1 million in State Transportation Improvement Program funds and \$119.1 million in Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds.

Latest Update on Gold Line Foothill Extension: Work Throughout the Corridor

Habib Balian, the Chief Executive Officer of the Foothill Extension Construction Authority, has released the latest update on the Gold Line Foothill Extension. He stated that with the majority of design for the 11.5 mile Pasadena to Azusa Alignment now finalized, the New Year will bring about widespread construction throughout the corridor cities. Work is already underway to relocate the freight track in advance of the light rail track construction in the city of Azusa. In Monrovia, crews are mass grading the 24-acre operations campus. This week, work started in Arcadia on the Colorado Boulevard Bridge and they will begin construction on the Foothill Bridge in Azusa next week. The work that is being done will require periodic and/or long term closures of lanes and streets. The Construction Authority will do everything possible to inform neighbors and the general public of the expected impacts. Starting this month, they will begin sending e-notices of the latest closures, anticipated impacts and general hotspots along the corridor. To view the complete story as posted on The Source and to sign up to receive the e-notices, please click [here](http://thesource.metro.net/2013/01/08/latest-update-on-gold-line-foothill-extension-work-throughout-the-corridor/).

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Procurement Postings for Next Week

Glass Windows for Blue Line Rail Vehicles (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure glass windows for the Blue Line Rail Vehicles. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from January 24, 2013 through March 13, 2013. Replacing the existing plastic windows with glass windows that have a harder surface will reduce the amount of damage and etching to the windows along with providing clean interiors for the riding public. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Sherri Jackson, Procurement Planning Administrator at (213) 922-1025.

Sand Paper (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure sand paper. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from January 14, 2013 through May 31, 2013. Sand paper is used primarily by the paint and body shops for maintaining and repairing buses and equipment. 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 Tanya Allen, Procurement Planning Administrator, at (213) 922-1018.

Bellows and Suspension Parts (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure Bellows and Suspension parts. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from January 14, 2013 through May 31, 2013. Bellows and related parts are needed to maintain the suspension system on the buses. 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 Tanya Allen, Procurement Planning Administrator, at (213) 922-1018.

Design/Build Regional Connector Transit Corridor Project (RFP)

Procurement released a Request for Proposals (RFP) on Wednesday, January 9, 2013, to perform the final design and construction for the Regional Connector Transit Corridor Project (Project). Work under this contract will include, but is not limited to, furnishing all management, coordination, professional services, labor, equipment, materials and other services to perform the design and construction of the Regional Connector Transit Corridor, a 1.86 mile light rail underground project from 7th Street and Flower Street to 1st Street and Central Avenue that will connect the existing Metro Blue, Expo and Gold Lines. The completed project will not only serve downtown Los Angeles where construction will occur, but the entire region by creating a vital connection between lines already reaching Culver City, East L.A., Long Beach, and Pasadena. The release of the RFP is the second phase of a two-step process to select a design-build Contractor for the Project. The first step sought Statement of Qualifications (SOQs) that Metro received in response to its Request for Qualifications (RFQ) dated October 29, 2012. The teams pre-qualified as a result of the first step are:

- Dragados USA, Inc., Schiavone Construction Co. LLC, and Southland Contracting, Inc. (Dragados / Schiavone / Southland, a Joint Venture)
- Skanska USA Civil West California District, Inc., Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.; and Traylor Bros., Inc. (Regional Connector Constructors)
- J. F. Shea Construction, Inc.; Walsh Construction Company; and Parsons Transportation Group, Inc. (PTG) (Shea / Walsh / PTG Joint Venture)
- Shimmick Construction Company, Inc.; Obayashi Corporation; and FCC

Construction, SA (Shimmick / Obayashi / FCC, a Joint Venture)

Metro will award a Firm Fixed Price contract to the responsive and responsible Proposer offering a Proposal that is determined to provide Metro with the Best Value, based on the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP. The issuance of the RFP continues the procurement black-out period which is expected to last through October 24, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the black-out period must be directed to and may only be answered by Ivan Page, Director of Contract Administration at (213) 922-6383 or at pagei@metro.net.

Gateway Building Generator Additions and Upgrades (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for the solicitation of the Gateway Building Generator Additions and Upgrades. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from January 15, 2013 through February 20, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Kenneth Takahashi, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1047.

Articulated Bus Pavement Wear Study (RFP)

Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure professional consulting services for research and analysis of articulated buses and pavement wear study for Countywide Planning. The procurement blackout period is expected to run from January 16, 2013 through March 18, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Ben Calmes, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7341.

Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events

Next week, I will be heading to Sacramento to meet with new and existing LA County State Delegation members. On Wednesday and Thursday I will be attending Metro Committee meetings; and Thursday afternoon I will be speaking at the Groundbreaking for the McBean Park and Ride station in Santa Clarita. Lastly, I will be participating in the California High Speed Rail, Mobility 21, Regionwide CEO, Metrolink Agencies' CEO, and Los Angeles-San Diego- San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency meetings on Friday.

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