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**Metro participates in AVTA Phase II Facilities Project Dedication Ceremony**

This morning, I joined elected officials at the dedication ceremony for the Antelope Valley Transit Authority's (AVTA) Phase II Facilities Project where I spoke about Metro's involvement in transportation projects throughout the north County. The Phase II expansion includes a new board room/community room, solar bus carports, five new maintenance bays and a new Diesel Exhaust Fluid facility. Metro provided \$744,399 in funding for this project through the Municipal Operators Service Improvement Program. Local press and Time Warner Cable Channel 3 covered the event. Stories are expected to run through the week.

**Metro ExpressLanes Update News Release/Performance Report Issued**

Media Relations issued a news release this afternoon noting that Metro ExpressLanes now in operation along the I-110 Harbor Freeway and the I-10 San Bernardino Freeway reached a major milestone this week with more than 125,000 FasTrak® Transponders now issued to motorists taking advantage of increased travel speeds along these two heavily traveled corridors. The release also notes that Metro has expanded the accessibility of transponders with Costco and Albertson Grocery Markets, who have agreed to expand their availability by including 26 additional stores. Those include: Fullerton (2), Whittier, Brea, La Habra (2), Highland, Riverside (2), Chino Hills (2), Redlands, Rancho Cucamonga (2), Chino, Orange (2), Monrovia, Diamond Bar, Upland (2), Arcadia, Ontario, San Dimas, Glendora and Cypress. A 10 percent discount is available at 23 Costco and 61 Albertsons locations. In addition, members of the Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) can open a Metro ExpressLanes FasTrak® account at a discounted price of \$32 by visiting [www.AAA.com/metroexpresslanes](http://www.AAA.com/metroexpresslanes) or visiting their local AAA office. The news release also notes that Metro has released preliminary data regarding the performance so far of the ExpressLanes operating along the Harbor Freeway based upon three and a half months of service. The full report is available online at [www.metroexpresslanes.net](http://www.metroexpresslanes.net). The preliminary data collected indicates:

- Travel Speeds on the ExpressLanes on the I-110 have exceeded an average of 45 miles per hour 100 percent of the time during peak periods from opening in early November through the end of February. Average speeds in the northbound ExpressLanes are 10 miles per hour faster during the morning peak period (7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.) than speeds measured before the ExpressLanes opened.
- The number of vehicles using the I-110 ExpressLanes at the end of February was about 96 percent of the total that used the lanes before they opened. The number has been steadily rising from 39,820 average work week trips in November to 49,017 average work week trips in February. (A total of 50,000 average work week trips were recorded before ExpressLanes opened).
- Average Speeds in the general purpose lanes during peak periods have dropped when compared to speeds measured in December 2011, although they have started

to improve. As more and more motorists choose to use the ExpressLanes, speeds in the general purpose lanes is expected to improve.

- Of the private vehicles that used the lanes, 60 percent were carpoolers and 40 percent were solo drivers.

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