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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Representatives from More than 75 Small Businesses Attend Construction Authority's Meet the Primes Networking Event**

**MONROVIA, Calif.** – Today, the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority (Construction Authority), and Foothill Transit Constructors (FTC) - A Kiewit Parsons Joint Venture, hosted a “Meet the Primes” networking event for small business representatives at the Doubletree Hotel in Monrovia, CA. The event drew approximately 120 individuals representing more than 75 local and regional small businesses.

Attendees received updates on the Foothill Extension light rail project from Pasadena to Azusa, and learned about opportunities for small businesses to participate in FTC's \$486 million design-build contract.

“The Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation estimates that the Foothill Extension from Pasadena to Azusa will generate nearly 7,000 jobs and \$1 billion in economic output during the next few years of construction,” said Construction Authority CEO, Habib F Balian. “The Authority has set a goal of 16 percent for small business participation in those benefits, and today's event was one way we could help bring small businesses together with our prime contractor.”

Senior managers from the Construction Authority and FTC were on hand to offer information and guidance to small business representatives interested in helping build the light rail extension. Information shared included available subcontracting opportunities, timing of opportunities, and how small businesses can qualify to participate. Attendees were provided the opportunity to speak one-on-one with managers in several different disciplines where small business subcontracting opportunities have been identified, including key managers in civil, structural, systems, utilities, and architectural building specialties.

“We are committed to having small businesses participate in this project” said Foothill Transit Constructors Project Director Steve McFadden. “We heard great feedback that today's event was helpful to small businesses and we look forward to moving forward with some of these businesses in the months ahead as we finalize design and move to construction.”

For those businesses unable to attend today's event, information provided during the event (including the necessary Subcontractor Interest Form, a list of Subcontracting Opportunities, the presentation given at the event, and contact information for FTC's small business coordinator) is available on the Construction Authority website - [www.foothillextension.org](http://www.foothillextension.org). Small businesses are encouraged to submit a Subcontracting Interest Form to FTC, so that they too will be notified when subcontracting opportunities in their discipline are ready for bidding.

#### **About the Foothill Extension from Pasadena to Azusa**

The Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension is a \$1.4 billion project, partially funded by Los Angeles County's Measure R. The light rail extension is being overseen by the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority and is currently undergoing final design and construction for the Pasadena to Azusa segment and environmental review for the Azusa to Montclair segment. Construction of the 11.5-mile light rail extension to Azusa is on schedule to be completed in 2015, adding six new stations in the cities of Arcadia, Monrovia, Duarte, Irwindale and Azusa.

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