The MTA, along with regional partners, has embarked on an aggressive construction program to improve mobility in Los Angeles County. All of these projects will relieve congestion and improve mobility when completed. However, during construction, Measure R projects and the utility works associated with the projects will inevitably cause disruption to traffic through lane closures and detours despite the implementation of traffic management and construction mitigation plans.

There will be three transit lines under construction, four freeway improvement projects, grade separations and local intersection improvements that will be either in construction or begin construction within the next few years. These MTA projects as well as other projects will run concurrently for years. An incident such as the fire that forced the closure of the SR-60 can cause a major disruption by itself; couple that with construction closures and detours and it will result in total gridlock. Major incidents complicated by construction and detours have the potential to be life threatening if they impact the delivery of emergency services.

To help further mitigate the potential effects of Measure R construction; we ask that staff examine the following:

Return to the Board, as part of the development of the FY13 budget process and funded from Measure R proceeds, a plan, including staffing, for a construction coordination office to be located within the Transit Projects Delivery Department that:

A. Coordinates construction activities with city and utility construction projects to minimize the potential for major traffic incidents.
B. Seeks to work with other construction entities to establish construction schedules and phasing that minimize potential disruption(s) and;
C. Seek to coordinate independent construction activities to minimize the expenditure of public funds, where practical and feasible.
D. Create media materials, 511 information and other real-time information to the public, first responders, news media, local jurisdictions and utilities.
E. Create a web site or link that reflects the latest construction information and includes twitter feeds and other social media if practical.