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APTA Honors Metro with Second Place Award at 38th International Bus Rodeo

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) held its annual Bus and Paratransit Conference and 38th International Bus Rodeo this week in Indianapolis, Indiana. APTA awarded the top three transportation systems with the highest bus operator and maintenance team combined scores first, second and third place honors. Metro was awarded second place overall for their bus operator and maintenance team combined scores. Grand Champion was awarded to Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) and Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) was awarded third place overall. Additionally the competition included individual awards.

Bus Operators competed in either the 35-foot or 40-foot bus competition and were tested on their driving skills. There were 51 bus operators who competed in the 40-foot bus competition, including Metro's Bus Operator, Mark Holland from Division 9. There were 12 California transit agencies that sent bus operator competitors with Metro placing first among the California agencies. Overall, Mark Holland took fourth place in the international 40-foot competition.

Maintenance teams also competed in the International Bus Rodeo and were tested on several disciplines ranging from air conditioning to engine diagnosis. Thirty-two teams participated in the annual competition with Metro's Maintenance team being awarded third place honors overall. The Maintenance team was comprised of three mechanics from Division 8. The team included Team Captain Joseph (Joe) Acuna, Mechanic A, with four years of service; William (Bill) Heiller, Master Mechanic Leader, with 29 years of service; and Watana (Don) Reiwatavee, Master Mechanic, with nine years of service. Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) won first place in the maintenance competition and Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) earned a second place finish.

I would like to congratulate our agency's International Bus Rodeo competitors for bringing home such a prestigious award. Additionally, our Bus Rodeo Committee worked hard to prepare the contestants and served as course judges for the International Bus Rodeo. The committee was comprised of staff from Maintenance, Transportation and Workforce Staffing: Steve Mullaly, Obed Mejia, Frank Cecere, Vince Wilkes and Melissa Victoria.

TSB/SPU Serve Graffiti Felony Vandalism Search Warrant and Make an Arrest

Yesterday, our Transit Security Bureau (TSB) Special Problems Unit (SPU) team served a Graffiti Felony Vandalism search warrant and successfully made an arrest. They seized vandalism tools and several "black books" containing photos and drawings of graffiti that will be used to eventually prosecute the individual responsible for train damage in excess of \$30,000. The suspect was not home during the execution of the warrant; however, SPU deputies talked him into surrendering later that same morning. The suspect confessed to damaging over twelve train car windows with graffiti etchings. The suspect will be formally charged next week.

Metro Sponsors Bike Week, May 13, 2013 – May 19, 2013

On Monday, May 13, 2013, our agency will officially kick off Bike Week with a press conference in Grand Park. I will join Metro Board Directors Pam O'Connor and Richard Katz to discuss the importance of bicycling as transportation. During Bike Week, employers, schools, and community groups will promote bicycling by holding over 100 events, such as bicycle repair workshops, guided rides, and Bike to Work "pit stops." To further encourage residents to explore bicycling as a first-mile/last-mile complement to transit, Metro and 11 Los Angeles-area transit agencies will provide free fares to bicyclists on Bike to Work Day, Thursday, May 16, 2013. More than 75 businesses will offer discounts to bicyclists from Friday, May 17, 2013 to Sunday, May 19, 2013 as part of Bike Local Weekend. For the full Bike Week schedule, please visit www.metro.net/bikeweek.

Procurement Postings for Next Week

Division 11-Covered Awning at Storage Building (IFB)

Procurement will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) Monday, May 13, 2013 for the Covered Awning Project (Design/Build) at Division 11-Storage Building. The scope of work includes: furnishing and installing an awning and fencing to enclose 2,300 square foot storage area; design and installation of fire alarm and sprinkler systems; and the design and installation of electrical system. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, May 13, 2013 through Wednesday, June 19, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Arlene Blazevic, Assistant Contract Administrator at (213) 922-2516.

Consulting Services for Heavy Rail Vehicle Acquisition, Technical Support Services (RFP)

Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure consulting services for the acquisition and on time delivery of heavy rail vehicles for use on Metro's existing rail lines and anticipated rail line extensions. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 13, 2013 through September 9, 2013. In support of its mission for the continued improvement of an efficient and effective transportation system, Metro is seeking consulting services for heavy rail vehicle acquisition, technical and program management support services to design, engineer, construct and deliver a safe, reliable and high quality rail vehicle. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Joe Marzano, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7014.

Tree Trimming Services on the Metro Orange Line (IFB)

Procurement will release one Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure the services of contractor(s) to provide Tree Trimming Services for the Metro Orange Line. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 13, 2013 through August 30, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Helen Gates-Bryant, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1269.

Asphaltic Concrete & Portland Cement Concrete Pavement Maintenance & Replacement Services (IFB)

Procurement will release one Invitation for Bids (IFB) next week to procure the services of contractor(s) to provide Asphaltic Concrete & Portland Cement Concrete Pavement Maintenance & Replacement Services. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 16, 2013 through September 30, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Thomas Meng, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1074.

Contracted Bus Services – South Region (RFP)

Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure Contracted Bus Services for the South Region. This procurement will be for bus lines 125, 128, 130, 205, 232, 607 and 625. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 8, 2013 through November 30, 2013. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Tamara Reid, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7215.

Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor Project Feasibility Study (RFP)

Procurement will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure consulting services for the Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor Project Feasibility Study. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 13, 2013 through June 26, 2013. The feasibility study is for an 8.3 mile segment of the 26-mile Harbor Subdivision, a Metro owned right-of-way (ROW) that has been identified in the 2009 Long Range Transit Plan (LRTP) as a promising, regionally significant transit project that could be implemented if additional funding becomes available. This study is in response to LACMTA Board Item Number 22, Ridley-Thomas and Molina Motion, approved at the September 27, 2012 LACMTA Board meeting. Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Samira Baghdikian, Contract Administration Manager at (213) 922-1033.

Upcoming CEO Meetings & Events

Next week, I will join Metro Board Director Pam O'Connor at an event to Kick-Off Bike Week in Los Angeles. Also, I will be meeting with House Speaker John Perez and will attend our monthly committee meetings. Lastly, I will be attending the following monthly meetings: High Speed Rail, Mobility 21, Regionwide CEO and Metrolink CEO meeting.

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