

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Thank You and Congratulations, Chair Garcetti

Yesterday, Metro held the final Board Meeting under the Chairmanship of Los Angeles City Mayor Eric Garcetti. While this is not the end, I want to take a moment to thank and recognize the Chair for his leadership, creativity and collaborative spirit that he has demonstrated this last year and throughout his career. Among the highlights from this year: helping break ground on the Purple Line and Regional Connector; spearheading initiatives to advance technology, ridership, customer experience, and sexual harassment awareness; helping to launch the Valley-Westside express bus service and Wilshire Boulevard Bus Lanes; bringing better first last mile solutions and more great streets, including the debut of Zipcar at Metro stations; and engaging the small business community, including helping to open the Business Solutions Center. A video commemorating this and more is available [here](#).

Rappin' with Phil

My new program, Rappin' with Phil, which is a monthly opportunity for employees to spend 15 minutes on the clock with me, will debut at the end of July. Sessions have been scheduled through December.

This is one of the many ways I hope to empower staff to unlock the creativity and potential that I know is within us. It is for innovating and building together. It is not for making excuses, circumventing management, complaining or blaming others.

To sign up for Rappin' with Phil, please click [here](#) or call (213) 922-6863. Please note, each month there will be up to 12 spaces available and there will be spaces reserved for employees who work at the Divisions. I look forward to rappin' with you.

Tuition Reimbursement Benefit

One of the elements of my Vision for Metro is that we invest in our employees (both salaried and represented) with regard to professional development, succession planning, compensation, recognition, and effectively concur and quickly respond to employee problems when they occur.

Consistent with my vision, and with the Board of Directors' approval, I am pleased to announce that the tuition reimbursement benefit for all represented employees will be the same as for salaried employees. This change is effective August 1, 2015, for employees enrolled in courses as of that date, and any courses they enroll in thereafter.

The benefit for all employees will be reimbursement of up to \$250 per credit for undergraduate courses, and \$350 per credit for graduate courses, subject to meeting all other requirements of the Tuition Reimbursement program. Please see the Tuition Reimbursement policy for details.

This change is part of a larger workforce development program that we will roll out for all employees. Stay tuned!

Stakeholders Notified of 28 Service Adjustments Going Into Effect This Sunday

Today, I sent an email blast to key Los Angeles County stakeholders about the service adjustments Metro is making starting this Sunday, June 28, 2015. The messages were sent to local, state and federal elected officials, key city staff, Councils of Governments, transit partners and others. No *major* service adjustments are being implemented at this time, but more than 100 bus and rail lines are receiving minor schedule adjustments to improve connections and on-time performance, reduce overcrowding, simplify service, reduce duplication, and improve coordination between Metro Bus, Rail, and Municipal and regional Operators. We are informing the public of these adjustments through "take one" notices and car cards on buses and trains, broad media notification throughout the region, [information on Metro's main web page](#), on our blogs [The Source](#) and [El Pasajero](#), and through our [social media](#) channels. To see a complete list of our updated schedules that go into effect on Sunday, June 28, please [click here](#). Revised timetables are being posted on [metro.net](#) and are being placed on buses, trains and in stations.

Metro Board Announces Adoption of L.A. County Bikeshare Plan

Yesterday, the Board of Directors voted to award an \$11 million contract to Bicycle Transit Systems, Inc., jumpstarting the first pilot bikesharing program in Downtown Los Angeles next year with expansions to other municipalities to follow. The system will launch in Spring 2016, after an extensive community and stakeholder outreach process, with nearly 1,100 bikes at 65 stations throughout Downtown LA. This is a major milestone in bringing a new transportation system to Los Angeles, providing greater access to communities and providing first and last mile travel options. As emphasized at the Board meeting, interoperability between modes of transport and other bike share programs will remain a priority as we move forward with our system.

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Reception

I'd like to thank the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, Foothill Transit, San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, Alameda Corridor East Construction Authority, Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority, elected officials and all who came out Wednesday to show support as I take on this new and exciting position, including Metro Second Vice Chair John Fasana and Director Hilda Solis. I appreciated the opportunity to address many officials from the 31 San Gabriel Valley cities, business groups, municipal operators and stakeholders who attended. In my remarks, I shared that I look forward to working with Los Angeles County cities to become the best transportation

system in the country, as well as my vision to provide excellence in service and support by delivering all Metro projects on-time and on-budget. As I shared with the group, we can accomplish incredible things by working together.

Mayor Garcetti Launches Bus Shelter Modernization Program

On Wednesday, City of Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti announced a program supported by Metro and LADOT to modernize bus shelters. Some amenities that could eventually be added to bus shelters throughout Los Angeles County include electronic signs that reflect real-time bus arrival times, an audio unit that vocally announces real-time bus progress, Wi-Fi hot spots and a USB port for phone charging. I support Chair Garcetti's program as we continue to understand, utilize and stay abreast of accelerating technological innovation, especially when it is designed to enhance the customer experience.

Already being tested through a pilot study are real-time electronic display signs at nine shelters in downtown Los Angeles with the intention of expanding enhanced shelter amenities to hundreds of bus shelters throughout Los Angeles County. For the full story as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

Metro Seeks Local Student's Creativity for the Crenshaw/LAX Project

In conjunction with Metro Art Program, artworxLA has invited local high school students to attend a series of free workshops to help design a mural celebrating the community that surrounds the Crenshaw/Expo Station. A professional artist with artworxLA will help students bring to life the landmarks, streets, and residents who make their neighborhood and community a special one.

Also, for students of all grade levels between Kindergarten and high school, Metro has sent an invite out to participate in a contest to name and create an illustration for the new Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) that will be used to dig the twin tunnels for the Crenshaw/LAX Line. The winning name and illustration will be displayed on the massive TBM and will be seen by many when Metro holds its ceremony to lower the TBM into the ground to begin work. Both of these programs are an excellent way to connect with our customers and participate in Metro's historic capital works.

Metro Art enhances the customer experience with innovative, award-winning visual and performing arts programming that encourages ridership and connects people, sites and neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles County. For the workshop schedule and participation information for the neighborhood mural as posted on The Source, please click [here](#). For more information on the TBM naming and illustration contest as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

Metro Takes 2nd Place in American Public Transportation Association (APTA) 2015 International Rail Rodeo

This past week, Metro Rail Train Operators and Maintenance Specialists competed in the APTA International Rail Rodeo in Salt Lake City, Utah. The combined scores of our train operations and maintenance teams helped secure 2nd place in the competition. The following Rail Operations and Maintenance employees represented Metro in the 2015 International Rail Rodeo Competition:

- Robert Rodriguez, Rail Transit Operations Supervisor, has been a Metro employee for 23 years. Prior to promoting to Rail Transit Operations Supervisor, Mr. Rodriguez served as a Train Operator for over 16 years. He has competed in the International Rail Rodeo eight times and has coached the Operator team twice.
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- Richard Saiz, Train Operator, has been with the agency for eight years, three of which he served in Rail Operations operating Red, Green, and Blue/Expo Lines. This event was his first International Rodeo.
- Ricardo Martinez was a part time Bus Operator for two years and a full time Operator for four years. He has been a Train Operator for over two years, operating the Blue/Expo Line. This year he competed in his first local and first international Rail Rodeo.
- Ezequiel Garcia, Gold Line Division 21 Maintenance Specialist, has been a Maintenance Specialist for over 2 years. Mr. Garcia made his international Rail Rodeo debut at last year's competition in Montreal Canada.
- Marcos Martinez, Gold Line Division 21 Maintenance Specialist, has been a Maintenance Specialist for twelve years. This is Mr. Martinez's second year participating in the APTA International Rail Rodeo.
- Jose Padilla, Blue Line Division 11 Maintenance Specialist, has been a Maintenance Specialist for over twelve years. Mr. Padilla has participated in a total of four International Rodeos including the 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015 competitions.

I am proud of our Rail Rodeo team and thank them for representing our outstanding Metro Rail Operations and Maintenance employees.

State Route 710 North Study Draft EIR/EIS Public Hearings Conclude, Public Comment Period Extended and Cost-Benefit Analysis Completed

Last Saturday, Caltrans and Metro hosted the final of five public hearings on the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the State Route 710 North Study that evaluates transportation options to reduce traffic congestion and improve mobility in the San Gabriel Valley and East/Northeast Los Angeles. Metro Board Director Hilda Solis attended the hearing at D.W. Griffith Middle School in East Los Angeles and encouraged stakeholders to provide their comments on the Study Alternatives and shared that her priority is to ensure the health and safety of the community. The final public hearing was attended by nearly 240 stakeholders, lasted more than 4 hours during which 64 individuals provided verbal testimony. The hearing was also webcast live in both English and Spanish. Over the course of five public hearings held on the SR 710 North Study Draft EIR/EIS, 880 people attended and 237 verbal comments were recorded in addition to the hundreds of comment forms and e-comments that are continuing to come in.

Caltrans and Metro also announced that the public comment period for the Draft EIR/EIS has been extended to August 5, 2015 to provide ample time for review of the approximately 2,200-page Draft EIR/EIS. Further, I am pleased to report that the Analysis of Costs and Benefits (CBA) has been completed and made widely available. The CBA will be considered in conjunction with the information provided in the Draft EIR/EIS to identify a recommended Preferred Alternative for Metro Board consideration. The CBA is available under "Reports & Info" at www.metro.net/sr710study. Alternatives being considered include Bus Rapid Transit, Light Rail Transit, Freeway Tunnel, Transportation Systems Management/Transportation Demand Management and No Build.

Procurement Postings

Evaluation of Bus Signal Priority and Next Generation Technologies (RFP) Small Business Prime
Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) next week to procure professional services. The Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy will not apply to this Procurement. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement blackout period is expected to run from Monday, June 29, 2015 to Friday, September 4, 2015.

The professional services to be procured will be for the purpose of evaluating the current state of the Transit Signal Priority System (TSP), including an evaluation of other transit agency deployments and third party solutions as outlined in the statement of work (SOW).

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by W. T. (Ted) Sparkuhl, Sr. Contracts Administrator, at (213) 922-7399.

Safety Prescription Eyewear Program (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure the Safety Prescription Eyewear Program.

The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, June 29, 2015 through Wednesday, September 30, 2015.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is seeking a safety prescription eyewear contractor to provide occupational optical goods to its employees who are required to wear safety glasses in high hazard areas or while performing high hazard tasks. The Contractor will be required to provide annually approximately 150 prescription safety optical eyewear to employees. Either an optometric referral network or a processing optical laboratory with client coordination that meets the RFP requirements will be considered. There will be no co-pay, deductibles or other insurance interface for these services. Metro Corporate Safety will pay 100% of all usual and customary costs associated with this program based on pre-established program tenets and cost guidelines with the Contractor.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Maria V. Lechuga, Interim Manager at (213) 922-7206.

Commercial and Industrial Door Repair and Preventative Maintenance (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure Commercial and Industrial Door Repair and Preventative Maintenance. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, July 2, 2015, through Thursday, January 28, 2016.

This project is for repair and preventative maintenance services for commercial and industrial doors.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Tom Meng, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1074 or via e-mail at mengt@metro.net.

Construction Notices – Blue Line, Expo Phase II, Purple Line Extension, I-5

Metro Blue Line: Between Washington and Florence Stations -- Station Closures for Refurbishment This Weekend

- As part of the Blue Line refurbishment project to replace station canopies, lighting, paint and other components, train service will be replaced by bus shuttles between Washington and Florence Stations.
- Metro is providing bus shuttle buses that will stop for pickups and drop offs at Slauson and Vernon Stations.
- The stations will be closed from 9:00 p.m. Friday, June 26, 2015 to 5:00 a.m. Monday, June 29, 2015.

Expo Phase II: [Train Testing Between Military Avenue and Centinela Avenue](#)

- This week, train testing activities began between Military Avenue and Centinela Avenue and will continue for several months.
- Testing activities will test train clearances, the Overhead Catenary System, the crossing gates and traffic signals, and all related systems. Testing Activities will occur Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[Final Construction Update Meeting in Santa Monica](#)

- Wednesday, June 24, 2015, Expo Construction Authority held its last construction update meeting in Santa Monica.
- Attendees received an overview of remaining construction work, testing activities, and plans for system startup and safety education.

Purple Line Extension Section I: [Art Removal at Wilshire Boulevard and La Brea Avenue](#)

- Design-build contractor *Skanska Traylor Shea (STS)*, and its subcontractors will be removing artwork at the former Metro Customer Service Center at 5301 Wilshire Boulevard.
- Work will consist of removing art panels from the former customer service building. Metro's Art department will be onsite during the removal process.
- Work will begin Monday, June 29, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and will continue daily until Thursday, July 2, 2015. For the complete construction notice, please click [here](#).

Caltrans Interstate 5: [All construction updates](#)

*“People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing”
~Dale Carnegie*



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