

# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

Happy Birthday,  
Metro Rail!



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In this Issue:

**Envisioning the Crenshaw/LAX Line**

**Partnering with the City of Santa Monica for the Expo Line Arrival**

**Test Train Reaches Downtown Santa Monica**

**All Hands Meeting Next Week**

**Special Olympics World Games 2015 Update**

**Bikeshare Excitement Brings Early Kiosk Demonstrations**

**Active Transportation Strategic Plan and Workshops**

**Metro Participating in the 9th Annual Leimert Park Village Book Fair**

**Metro Art Engages Youth Along the Crenshaw/LAX Corridor**

**Go Metro Mobile App Updated for Special Olympics with New Technology**

**Procurement Postings**

**Construction Notices – Gold Line, I-5, I-10**

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## Envisioning the Crenshaw/LAX Line

On Wednesday, I was happy to participate in a Crenshaw/LAX stakeholders meeting hosted by Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair Mark Ridley-Thomas, “Envisioning the Crenshaw/LAX Line: A Discussion with Metro CEO Phil Washington” at the historic Vision Theatre. Also in attendance were City of Inglewood Mayor and Metro Board Member James Butts, Los Angeles City Councilman Curren Price, and representatives from Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Member Eric Garcetti’s office.

The event kicked off with a lively drumming performance from an ensemble of female drummers from the renowned World Stage in Leimert Park Village. Last Year, World Stage partnered with Metro on the *Trees to Drums* project, where trees removed from a Crenshaw/LAX (C/LAX) construction site were used to make drums to teach drumming classes.

This event provided an opportunity for the Chair and I to share our vision and goals for the new leadership here at Metro. I want to thank Chair Ridley-Thomas not only for this opportunity to share our vision but for the chance to open discussions and listen to the ideas and questions that the many community leaders and stakeholders that surround the C/LAX project have. I look forward to continuing these discussions with the community.

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## Partnering with the City of Santa Monica for the Expo Line Arrival

This week, we had a great conversation with the City of Santa Monica’s City Manager Rick Cole, who confirmed that they are committed to partnering with Metro to bolster up marketing and messaging for the arrival of the Expo Line to Santa Monica next year. The City of Santa Monica is discussing funding to go towards these communications and marketing efforts. Partnering with our public sector agencies and maintaining great working relationships with our municipal governments are crucial to completing our projects on time and within budget. Thank you very much to Rick Cole, the City of Santa Monica, and Metro Communications for working together and bringing this news as Expo Line train testing reached another milestone this week.

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## Test Train Reaches Downtown Santa Monica

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On Wednesday, another major milestone was reached on the Expo Line Phase 2. For the first time in over half a century, a passenger train entered Downtown Santa Monica reaching the Metro Expo Line Downtown Santa Monica station at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Colorado Avenue. Expo Phase 2 train testing began earlier this month and will continue for several more months. For a video and photos of this milestone as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

As we get closer and the excitement builds, it is critical that safety and security remain our #1 priority and focus. There's still much more testing, training and inspecting left to do before the line opens next year, and we must work in close coordination with all involved parties to put us in the position to provide excellence in service and support on this line and the whole system for years to come. For more information on train testing activities, including safety tips for being near trains and train tracks as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

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### **All Hands Meeting Next Week**

Metro family, I invite you to come down to the Board Room next Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. for an All Hands meeting. Additional seating will be provided in the Metro Gateway building cafeteria. You can also listen-in on a squawk box or dial into extension 2-6045. For our operations staff out at divisions, the meeting will be broadcasted live, please tune in. A special thank you to our IT staff and technicians for their important role in this communication effort, helping us truly become one entity.

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### **Special Olympics World Games 2015 Update**

The 2015 Special Olympics World Games are in full swing throughout Los Angeles County. Metro is proud to be the "Official Transit Provider" of the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, the largest sporting and humanitarian event held in Los Angeles since the 1984 Olympics. I encourage you to Go Metro this weekend to support the athletes, families, coaches and volunteers who have come together for an inspirational and historic event. For more information on the competition schedule, please click [here](#).

I want to personally thank our bus and rail operations staff for safely moving event-goers to and from the venues, monitoring service and for providing excellence in service and support. I also want to thank our Metro employees, including family and friends, who have signed up and participated as Team Metro "Fans in the Stands" to cheer on and support the athletes.

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### **Bikeshare Excitement Brings Early Kiosk Demonstrations**

With the recent contract approval with Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) by the Metro Board of Directors, Los Angeles County will have a bikeshare program starting 2016 in Downtown Los Angeles, with other communities to follow. We are already seeing the excitement and anticipation of this bikeshare program. Yesterday, BTS along with their partners B-Cycle hosted their first of three kiosk demonstrations. Although a fare structure for this program is still in the works, demonstrations will show how the kiosk's function and how commuters can use their TAP card to check out a bike.

With nearly 1,100 bikes and 65 bikeshare stations throughout the downtown region, LA County will be moving closer towards our goal of a world class multimodal balanced transportation system. For information on the two remaining demonstrations of the bikeshare kiosks as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

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## **Active Transportation Strategic Plan and Workshops**

Metro is currently developing an Active Transportation Strategic Plan (Plan), which will identify opportunities for our agency to support and fund active transportation infrastructure and programs, seek to maximize the benefits of our region's transportation investments, and identify opportunities for supporting local and regional partners to get these projects and programs implemented.

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One of the key upcoming stakeholder engagement efforts includes the first round of workshops, which will be held in August 2015 to seek feedback from stakeholders. For additional information as well as the list of August workshop dates, please click [here](#).

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## **Metro Participating in the 9th Annual Leimert Park Village Book Fair**

Tomorrow, Saturday, August 1, 2015, Metro will participate in the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Leimert Park Village Book Fair to promote, encourage and advocate literacy, education and the love of reading throughout the Greater Los Angeles areas. This event will be a fun day of book signings, a panel discussion, live music and other activities for the whole family. Metro's African American Employees Association and *Eat, Shop, Play Local* are inviting us all to come out for lunch and support #espCrenshaw businesses. Metro employees who show their employee ID's or TAP cards can save 10% on book bags and more. For more information, please click [here](#).

The Book Fair will be taking place from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza – 3650 W. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Los Angeles, 90008.

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## **Metro Art Engages Youth Along the Crenshaw/LAX Corridor**

This year, Metro Art has been engaging communities along the Crenshaw/LAX Corridor with various youth workshops which take place in partnership with local arts and community organizations. Local high school students have been meeting this summer to help design a monumental mural for an Expo/Crenshaw Station construction fence that will celebrate the surrounding neighborhood landmarks, street names and residents that make this community special.

Metro Art will now offer a new series of free workshops for local teens to design another construction phase mural – this time celebrating Leimert Park. Photos of the recent workshops and details about upcoming workshops can be found [here](#). Upcoming workshops for local youth focused on the Leimert Park Station will be held at – KAOS Network, 4343 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles, 90008:

- Monday, August 10, 2015
- Wednesday, August 12, 2015
- Monday, August 24, 2015

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 more information about Metro's art program, please click [here](#).

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## **Go Metro Mobile App Updated for Special Olympics with New Technology**

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The latest version of Metro's mobile application, Go Metro v3.2, was released for customers to download in time for opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics. Feature improvements include geofencing and beacon technology, maps for offline use, and minor bug fixes.

Geofencing and beacon technology can be utilized to deliver relevant messages to app users near stations, stops, and specific locations. Beginning this week, beacons already deployed in City of Los Angeles bus benches near the Convention Center will trigger a specific message, along with a geofence triggered message for app users in Los Angeles County. The technology is being rolled out as part of a 60-day pilot program and Metro Communications will be sending other targeted messages within this timeframe.

Also new in version 3.2 is the option to download the entirety of Metro's maps and timetables (about 170 in total) for 99 cents. As each map/timetable is still free for individual download, this new service bundle is intended for customers who want the convenience of having all the maps/timetables for offline use.

For more information on the app please click [here](#), or to download the app now, please click [here](#).

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## **Procurement Postings**

### Mobile Observation Platform (IFB)

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure a Mobile Observation Platform. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, July 30, 2015 through Monday, August 10, 2015.

The selected contractor will provide an extendable Mobile Observation Platform, which can be driven or towed to a location for deployment to deter crime in high incident areas. The Mobile Observation Platform will have a cab where a peace officer or security officer can sit and observe the outside surroundings by means of video or physical means and report any incidents. The ability to remotely monitor and control cameras to operate in a non-personnel mode is also desirable.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by James Nolan, Sr. Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7312.

### Consulting Services for Heavy Rail Acquisition, Technical and Program Control Support (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure professional technical and program control consulting services in support of the new heavy rail vehicle HR4000 project. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, August 3, 2015 through Thursday, December 31, 2015.

This is a contracting opportunity for professional consulting firms to provide post award technical and program control support services for the design, production and delivery of the new heavy rail vehicles project.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Elizabeth Hernandez at (213) 922-7334.

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## Construction Notices – Gold Line, I-5, I-10

Metro Gold Line: [Morning & Mid-day Maintenance](#)

- On Saturday August 1, 2015 from opening service to 5:00 p.m.
- Trains run every 15 minutes between Union Station and Pasadena; Every 30 minutes between Union Station and East LA

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

Caltrans Interstate 10: Beginning the evening of July 6, 2015, Caltrans closed a half mile section of the I-10 ExpressLanes in both the east and west directions between Peck Road and Valley Boulevard for a period of six weeks to implement safety enhancements. The closure will be 24 hours a day for the ExpressLanes section and as needed on the General Purpose lanes. Drivers in the ExpressLanes will have to merge out of the ExpressLanes into the General Purpose lanes prior to the construction zone. This is anticipated to increase traffic congestion in the area.

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*“Coming together is a beginning; Keeping together is progress; Working together is success”*

*~Henry Ford*



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