

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer

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The Villains are Taking Over!

Today, the 11th Annual Halloween Party for our Metro Child Care Kids was held on the 2nd Floor in Customer Relations. “The theme this year was ‘The Villains are Taking Over’, and it was a great time for all,” said Gail M. Harvey, Director of Customer Relations.

After the Kids ‘took over’ the Plaza Lobby and gathered their treats, they were excited to go and ‘take over’ the 2nd Floor looking for more goodies!

The Customer Relations staff escorted more than 35 kids, who were accompanied by their teachers and parents, upstairs where they marched through the Metro Contact Center and were greeted by staff with loads of treats to share.

“These Halloween events just get better and better each year and we appreciate the attendance of the kids, families and friends,” continued Harvey... “We are already looking forward to next year.” This event was coordinated by the Activity Committee, which is comprised of Millie Acosta, Anthony Rodarte, Rina Munoz, Brian Ledey, Alonzo Williams, Paula Grigsby and Gail M. Harvey.

For photos from the takeover, please click [here](#) and [here](#).

Metro Announces \$15 Million TIGER Grant for Rail to Rail Project

On Thursday afternoon, Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair Mark Ridley-Thomas welcomed United States Transportation Deputy Secretary Victor Mendez at a news conference to announce Metro being awarded a \$15 million TIGER grant to construct the Rail to Rail project, which will transform a minimally active rail corridor in South Los Angeles into a pedestrian and bicycle pathway. Joining Chair Ridley-Thomas and I at the podium to speak were City of Inglewood Mayor and Metro Board member James T. Butts; Carolyn Flowers, senior advisor for Acting FTA Administrator Therese McMillian, and Sandra McNeil, a Trust South Los Angeles representative.

The TIGER grant is one of the most competitive awards that an agency can win and Deputy Secretary Mendez flew from Washington D.C. to congratulate Metro Directors and staff on its successful application. For a video, photos and more information on the Rail to Rail Project as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

Are We People Ready? Meeting with Community College Leaders

On Wednesday, I convened a meeting with Community College Presidents and Leaders to highlight career opportunities at Metro and open a conversation to create more pathways to employment through education and technical training. Many of our great opportunities require training, and this partnership will expand the capacity of the industry to attract and prepare talent. I appreciate the broad support for this partnership, including U.S. Representatives Janice Hahn, Xavier Becerra and Lucille Roybal-Allard and our Metro Board of Directors, for realizing the potential of working with our educational institutions to enhance and tailor the learning and training programs that will help Metro improve as our system grows.

Caltrans Cuts Ribbon for I-605/I-10 Interchange Transition in Baldwin Park

On Wednesday, City of Duarte Councilmember and Metro Vice Chair John Fasana, LA County Supervisor and Metro Board Member Hilda Solis, State Senator Ed Hernandez, State Assembly member Roger Hernandez, Caltrans District 7 Director and Metro Board member Carrie Bowen, Baldwin Park Mayor Manuel Lozano and West Covina Mayor Fredrick Sykes, all joined to help cut the ribbon for a new transition at the I-605/I-10 freeway interchange in the City of Baldwin Park.

Metro commends Caltrans for completing this project, which demonstrates the importance of our region moving together as one. Inter-agency coordination on a project is essential, but so is coordinating on an overall vision while carrying out individual, complementary projects with the whole region in mind. This project accomplished just that – it was funded by the state, but dovetails with projects that Metro is funding. To this point, Director Fasana said of the project, “this is an example of true collaboration between agencies as the Caltrans-funded connector project is part of other necessary improvements funded by Metro on this corridor, notably the extension of the HOV lane between the 605 and the 57 freeways.”

For photos from this ribbon cutting ceremony, please click [here](#) and [here](#).

Letter from Development Associate at Sequoyah School

Please see the below testimonial highlighting the excellence in service and support of our employees out in the community:

Dear Mr. Washington,

Earlier today we had our yearly visit from the division of the MTA that provides safety training and bus and train passes to schools. We saw Jordan Vann who works for the program under Jennifer Arnt. It was a lovely presentation and Ms. Vann did a great job with our spirited students. We love what Ms. Arnt and her staff are accomplishing.

I work at Sequoyah School, an independent K-12 school in Pasadena. Our students walk to the Metro and ride trains and buses often. Your program is encouraging them to become lifelong users of public transportation!

Warmest regards,

Eileen Lee

Westside Section 1 Receives First Business Interruption Fund Grants

Metro's Business Interruption Fund (BIF), authorized by Metro Board of Directors, continues to successfully provide financial assistance to "mom and pop" businesses directly impacted by transit rail construction along the Crenshaw/LAX transit line, the Little Tokyo community impacted by the Regional Connector, and along Phase I of the Purple Line Extension. The BIF reached another program achievement by awarding BIF grants to the first two small businesses along Phase I of the Purple Line Extension; "I Love Lulu, LLC" and "Origen Mexican Kitchen." Metro staff and the BIF fund administrator, Pacific Coast Regional Small Business Development Corporation (PCR), continue to advance outreach efforts to reach the small businesses directly impacted by Metro's transit rail construction. The BIF continues to be a demonstration of our commitment to small businesses and communities. A spotlight on each business is forthcoming on The Source.

Go Metro to Halloween Festivities this Weekend

This Saturday, October 31, 2015, is the annual West Hollywood Halloween Carnival on Santa Monica Boulevard and the surrounding area in West Hollywood. Street closures will be in effect and a few Metro bus lines will be detoured. This event draws large crowds every year and we anticipate this year to be no different – especially on a Saturday night. To have a safe and stress-free ride to the Halloween Carnival, or any other celebration around LA County this weekend, Go Metro. Metro Rail service will be enhanced with longer train cars to accommodate more passengers on the Red and Purple Lines as well as the cancellation of late night train car eliminations on all Metro light rail lines – Metro Blue, Expo, Gold and Green Lines. As usual on Saturdays, Metro rail will be operating until 2:00 a.m.

For more information on this weekend's festivities as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

Metro Art Moves Tour Celebrates Dia de los Muertos this Weekend

This Sunday, November 1, 2015, a special Dia de los Muertos Metro Art tour will be guided by Consuelo Flores, a poet, writer, and mixed media, installation, and performance artist known for her understanding and promotion of the true celebration of Dia de los Muertos or, "Day of the Dead."

The tour will depart from the Sierra Madre Village station at 4:30 p.m. to travel along the Metro Gold Line leading to the 42nd Annual Self Help Graphics & Art's Dia de los Muertos celebration in Boyle Heights. This tour has generated positive reviews so arrive early as it is limited to the first 100 attendees on a first-come first-served basis. Additional Metro art tours continue year round.

For the complete story as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

Procurement Postings

Consolidated Audit Program FY 2016 Through FY 2020 (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure financial and compliance audit services for the Consolidated Audit Program. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, November 4, 2015 through Thursday, January 28, 2016.

Metro is seeking the services of two (2) external, independent CPA Firms to perform financial and compliance audits to provide assurance that recipients of funds included in the Consolidated Audit are adhering to the statutes, program guidelines, and/or agreements of each applicable funding source and that operations data used to allocate funds is fair and in accordance with Federal Transportation Authority (FTA) guidelines.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Rommel Hilario, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-4654.

Metro Safety Culture and Rail Operational Safety (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure services. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, October 30, 2015 through Friday, December 18, 2015.

Metro is in need of a consultant firm/team that specializes in performing/analyzing and/or conducting research into developing a zero tolerance policy for creating a safety culture for its rail operations and management, and to conduct a root cause analysis of the safety violations of its systems over the past two years.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Barbara A. Gatewood, Senior Contract Administrator at gatewoodb@metro.net, at (213) 922-7317.

Construction Notices – Expo Phase II, I-5

Metro Expo Line Phase II: Bus Shuttles Replace Expo Line Trains – Between Expo/La Brea and Culver City Stations

- Work crews will continue tying in signals systems of the existing Expo Line and the Phase II Extension
- Beginning Saturday, October 31, 2015 at 11:59 p.m. through Sunday, November 1, 2015, close of service, bus shuttles will replace Expo Line Trains between Expo/La Brea and Culver City stations.

Full Closure of Centinela Avenue at Exposition Boulevard -- For Storm Drain Installation

- To complete storm drain installation on Centinela Avenue, the design-build contractor Skanska-Rados, Joint Venture (SRJV) will need to implement street closure on Centinela Avenue between Olympic Boulevard and Exposition Boulevard
- Work started the week of Monday, October 26, 2015 and will continue approximately 3 weeks, Sunday through Thursdays
- Work and closure hours will be from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Caltrans Interstate 5: All construction updates

*“Deep into that darkness peering, long I stood there, wondering, fearing, doubting,
dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared dream before”
~Edgar Allan Poe*



**Los Angeles County
Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority**

**1 Gateway Plaza, 25th
Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 922-6000**

metro.net

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