

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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In this Issue:

[All Hands: Metro Celebrates Excellence in the Workplace](#)

[Expo Line Phase 2 Opening Date Announced](#)

[AAEA Closes Black History Month with Artist Talk and “Nurturing Our Legacy” Luncheon](#)

[Discussing the Changes in Transportation in Santa Monica and the Westside](#)

[Metro and Transportation Business Advisory Council Hosts Meet the Primes 2016](#)

[Working Together: Caltrans, Metro and LADOT Luncheon](#)

[Fielding Questions on “AirTalk with Larry Mantle”](#)

[Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project Turns Displaced Trees into Drums for the Community](#)

[Update on Cellular Service in Subway Tunnel](#)

[Transit Watch Officer and Mobile Phone Validator 2.0 Security Mobile Apps](#)

[No-Ho to Pasadena Express Bus Services Begins Next Week](#)

[Rappin’ with Phil Goes on Hiatus](#)

[Procurement Postings](#)

[Construction Notices – Blue Line, I-5](#)

All Hands: Metro Celebrates Excellence in the Workplace

Today, we held the 1st Annual Excellence in the Workplace Awards where we celebrated the work we do at Metro and its importance in transforming Los Angeles County. The event, held at the beautiful Orpheum Theater and streamed to the Metro network, was a great opportunity to communicate what we are doing, bring folks from all functions throughout the agency together, and to reflect on what it means to provide Excellence in Service and Support.

I was also pleased to have an opportunity to highlight some of the important things going on at Metro in the realm of innovation, fiscal responsibility and safety/security, and workforce development. Importantly, this All Hands Meeting was a chance to educate our workforce on the potential ballot measure and I encourage employees to engage with this process as it unfolds. With the proper information, we can better speak with one voice and be ambassadors of the Metro brand. I want to thank Metro Board Chair and Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas for delivering an inspiring introduction on behalf of our Board who so appreciates and relies on the work of staff to govern Metro and its outcomes for Los Angeles County.

I would also like to thank the Metro Express Band, event planners Joanne Peterson and Jose Ramirez, HR, ITS, award presenters, and all staff who came together to make this first event a success. I also would like to congratulate the award winners for setting an example of excellence for our Metro Family.

Expo Line Phase 2 Opening Date Announced

On Thursday, immediately following our Regular February Board Meeting, I joined Metro Chair and LA County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, The Metro Board of Directors, City of Santa Monica Mayor Tony Vazquez, City of Santa Monica City Administrator Rick Cole, and Exposition Metro Line

Construction Authority Chief Operating Officer Samantha Bricker to announce the opening date of the Metro Expo Line Phase 2 to Santa Monica: **Friday, May 20, 2016**. I thank the past and present Metro Board Members for successfully moving this project forward to completion but want to point out that we could have never done this without the support of Los Angeles County voters who supported Measure R which provided 66 percent of the funds to build the Metro Expo Line.

This 6.6-mile extension with 7 new stations will now connect the communities of Palms, Rancho Park, West Los Angeles and the City of Santa Monica offering an option to travel between downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica during peak-hours in 46 minutes. The West side residents with their well-known traffic issues finally have a new way to avoid traffic.

AAEA Closes Black History Month with Artist Talk and “Nurturing Our Legacy” Luncheon

Also on Thursday, the Metro African American Employee Association (AAEA) closed out its recognition of Black History Month with an inspiring luncheon which carried the theme “Nurturing Our Legacy.” Eat Shop Play business Brooklyn Deli and Mini Market catered the event and Inglewood Mayor and Metro Board Member James Butts made time between the Board Meeting and the Expo Phase II Opening Date Announcement to deliver powerful remarks about the power of history telling and the importance of being prepared for opportunity. Mayor Butts attributed much of his success to those who came before him. Every example and story he wove together from his four different careers, were a testament to his message of honoring those who came before and paying it forward. I want to thank the AAEA, including Emcee Velma Marshall, President Helen Gates-Bryant and Luncheon Chair Susan Dove for the excellent programming this month; I especially appreciate AAEA’s efforts in community building and highlighting individuals who we can learn and draw inspiration from.

Also, Earlier in the week, AAEA hosted artist June Edmonds to present examples of her artwork, and to speak about the family members, peers and educational opportunities that have nurtured her growth as an artist. Specific focus was placed on her 1995 Metro Art commission at Pacific Ave Station entitled *We Know Who We Are*, which is comprised of 12 vibrant mosaic panels. The group was inspired by June’s energy and creativity and engaged in a Q&A session with the artist at the end of the presentation. More information regarding June: juneedmonds.com. Thank you to the AAEA leadership for hosting this event, and specific thanks to Metro Art for facilitating June’s participation.

Discussing the Changes in Transportation in Santa Monica and the Westside

On Wednesday, I joined a panel discussion hosted by E2 in Santa Monica entitled “Which Way for a Better LA? Policies to Address Transportation Needs.” Our discussion focused on how changes in transportation such as congestion pricing, electric vehicles, and the Expo Line Phase 2 are impacting the environment and economy around Santa Monica and the west Los Angeles communities. This was a great opportunity to speak about the positive changes in transportation and mobility the Expo Line Phase 2 will bring to the west Los Angeles Communities and get people excited on the eve of the Expo Line 2 Opening Date Announcement.

Metro and Transportation Business Advisory Council Hosts Meet the Primes 2016

On Tuesday evening, Metro and the Transportation Business Advisory Council (TBAC) presented “Meet the Primes”, an annual Metro signature event. This year’s event was the largest and best attended to date with 30 large Prime Contractors and 543 registered small businesses in attendance. “Meet the Primes” gives small businesses an opportunity to interface with Prime contractors that do business in the region. Our branded outreach, known to the business community as MetroConnect, has developed a reputation for providing quality access in a friendly and efficient atmosphere.

Representatives from several public entities were at the event as guests in order to witness, learn and ultimately emulate Metro's outreach and hospitality protocols. The concierge-style relationships developed with the Primes and with the business community are key to the event's success.

Unique to Metro, event registrants received a list of Primes to be in attendance and a hyperlink access to the MetroConnect Tool Kit. The Tool Kit includes instructions, tracking sheets, hints and strategies needed to make the best use of our large and small events. As with all of the events hosted by the Diversity and Economic Opportunity Department (DEOD), guests were advised to come hungry, bring their good attitudes and wear comfortable shoes. Congratulations to Metro Interim Executive Director of Vendor/Contract Management Ivan Page and the staff of DEOD for another exemplary outreach effort.

Working Together: Caltrans, Metro and LADOT Luncheon

On Tuesday, Metro Board Member Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Metro Board Member and Caltrans District 7 Director Carrie Bowen, and Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) General Manager Seleta Reynolds joined Metro Deputy CEO Stephanie Wiggins for a panel discussion on the current golden age of growth and change in California transportation hosted by WTS-LA. Panelists discussed how they will keep up with new technology and demands with the rapid changes in transportation. WTS Members and guests in the audience also had a chance to hear the latest news on Caltrans, Metro and LADOT projects, Measure R funded programs, and how these agencies have partnered with small businesses throughout southern California.

Fielding Questions on "AirTalk with Larry Mantle"

Also on Tuesday, I joined the KPCC radio program "AirTalk with Larry Mantle" to talk about Metro service in Los Angeles County. I fielded a number of questions from both callers and show co-host Patt Morrison including one on the recent decline in transit ridership in Los Angeles County. I pointed out that the decline rate is in line with local and national trends and that transit ridership is cyclical. I informed that Metro is looking at a 30-year planning horizon for building out the county's public transportation system to meet its ever-growing population and how Metro is also focused on enhancing the customer experience which includes providing cellular service in the subway tunnel between Union Station and 7th St/Metro Ctr station which is coming very soon.

For a link to listen to the entire KPCC broadcast, please click here:
<http://www.scpr.org/programs/airtalk/>.

Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project Turns Displaced Trees into Drums for the Community

Some of the displaced trees cut down during the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project (C/LAX) construction have found new life as drums. On Monday, local community arts, music and dance organizations including KAOS Network, Fernando Pullum Community Arts Center, Musicians in Action, Lula Washington and World Stage received 40 drums donated through World Stage's "Tree to Drum Project" at the Crenshaw/LAX Community Leadership Council Quarterly Meeting at Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Chair Mark-Ridley Thomas's Expo Park Office. The Tree to Drum Project in partnership with World Stage, worked with Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and Metro to repurpose the trees into beautiful handmade West African style drums which were manufactured at Motherland Music in Inglewood. In addition, Metro is in the process of planting 821 new trees to replace those displaced.

For photos, a video and a complete story on the Tree to Drum Project as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

Update on Cellular Service in Subway Tunnel

Another major milestone was reached in Metro's effort to provide wireless cellular coverage in our subway system. Last week, Sprint followed Verizon Wireless's lead in signing a formal agreement with Metro's contractor, InSite Wireless, to provide cellular service in our subway system. When implemented, this system will provide continuous wireless phone coverage and Internet access to Verizon and Sprint subscribers from above ground, down onto the subway station platforms and then into the subway trains.

The necessary infrastructure for the system is being installed in segments. There is still some work remaining to light up the Verizon cellular service in the first subway segment (Union Station to 7th St/Metro Ctr). The first segment is due to be lit up for Verizon subscribers in the end of March 2016.

There is a significant amount of work needed to establish the Sprint service in our subway. InSite Wireless is working with Sprint and Metro to establish a schedule for implementation of the Sprint cellular service in the first subway segment. Negotiations with the other two cellular wireless carriers, T-Mobile and AT&T, are ongoing.

Transit Watch Officer and Mobile Phone Validator 2.0 Security Mobile Apps

The System Security and Law Enforcement Department is currently developing the next generation of mobile applications to enhance fare enforcements and customer safety while using our transit system. The mobile applications are Transit Watch Officer application and Mobile Phone Validator (MPV) 2.0.

The Transit Watch Officer application will provide Metro instant access to field resources using global positioning satellite (GPS), allow real time reporting of incident(s) by field units, and enhance field unit response to customer reporting. The MPV 2.0 is expected to be launched later this year and will include the deduction of Stored Value, activation of a rolling pass and live map pinpointing the location of each officer and distinguishing sworn and non-sworn deployment. The most common fare evasion scenario, close to 70%, is un-activated rolling pass or stored value-did not tap. MPV 2.0 will allow an officer to activate rolling passes and deduct stored value.

In addition, we are exploring Beacon technology in order to provide uniform presence throughout Metro's bus and rail system. Beacons transmit via Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) providing specific location of the inspector for the duration they are in range. Beacon technology will allow us to monitor and deploy resources to perform platform and building inspections as well as track bus and train rides.

No-Ho to Pasadena Express Bus Services Begins Next Week

In the run-up to the opening of the Gold Line extension to Azusa on March 5, there is another important new transit service debuting: an express Metro bus connecting Pasadena, Glendale, the Burbank Media District and the North Hollywood Red Line and Orange Line stations. The new bus service will be called the NoHo-Pasadena Express, or the 501. This is the frequent all-day and weekend transit connection between the San Gabriel and San Fernando valleys that has been much needed for transit riders in these communities.

For more details including the route and schedules as posted on The Source, please click [here](#).

Rappin' with Phil Goes on Hiatus

My program, Rappin' with Phil, which is a monthly opportunity for employees to spend 15 minutes on the clock with me, will be suspended for the summer. The last Rappin' with Phil session will be in

May. I am taking this time to focus on getting out and visiting all of our Metro divisions. This program has been very successful thus far with several of your ideas implemented, shared at the Senior Leadership Team Meeting, or in planning and discussion with appropriate departments and Metro staff. To date, I have met with over one hundred employees in what amounts to almost a full work week of sessions. Your input continues to be very important to me, as I consider our Metro family to be our greatest resource – we will continue our dialogue through other channels for the time being. If you have ideas you wish to share, please feel free to interoffice mail them to my office at Mail Stop 99-25-1.

I want to thank you all for the overwhelming interest in this opportunity to unlock the creativity and potential that I know is within us here at Metro. The creativity and thought leadership must continue as we innovate and build together to become the greatest transportation agency in the world.

This may be the end of Rappin' with Phil for the time being, but we are only at the beginning of accomplishing the intentions it was founded upon. Make sure you look out for other ways to share your thoughts with me.

Procurement Postings

Complete Streets Training and Education (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure services for the development and implementation of Complete Streets Training and Education. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, March 2, 2016 through Monday, May 16, 2016.

The purpose of the procurement is to develop and conduct a series of Complete Streets Training Workshops for applicable Metro staff and local government agency planners, engineers, decision-makers, traffic safety professionals, public health professionals, and community organizations on developing Complete Streets policy.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Sonja Gettel, Senior Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-7558.

Sustainability Engineering Services (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a Sustainability Engineering Services – Climate Change and Adaptation and Green House Gases Emissions Consultant as the most qualified consultant to provide Architecture and Engineering (A&E) services, labor, equipment, materials and all other services necessary to perform climate change resiliency, vulnerability, and adaptation, greenhouse gas emissions, air quality, carbon capture, Cap and Trade, and other related goals of Metro's sustainability effort, and prepare and review design and construction documents and specifications, analyses, studies, surveys, investigations, modeling, predictions, and/or reports related to the operation and maintenance of Metro's transportation system, facilities, and support activities. Metro projects may include, but are not limited to, new and existing Metro facilities, projects and changes to rail development and bus service.

Consultant shall employ or subcontract as necessary with such diverse professionals as Climate Change Scientists; Climate Adaptation Specialists; Risk Management Specialists; Climate Resiliency Specialists; GIS Operators; CADD/Microstation Operators; Greenhouse Gas/Air Quality Specialists; Grants Managers; Technical Experts; Professional Engineers; Sustainability Engineers; Sustainability Planners; Coastal Engineers; Transportation Specialists; and such other professional practitioners as may be needed to support the required climate adaptation, climate vulnerability, climate resiliency, carbon capture, GHG reduction/mitigation related initiatives/projects. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, March 3, 2016 through Wednesday, September 28, 2016.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Daniel A. Robb, Designated Consultant, Contracts at (213) 922-1304.

Bob Hope Airport/Hollywood Way Station (IFB)

Metro will release an Invitation for Bid (IFB) to procure a new Metrolink Station for passengers using the Metrolink Antelope Valley Line. The Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy will apply to this Procurement. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, March 14, 2016 through Monday May 9, 2016.

This new station will provide “Plane to Train” connection for passengers using the Metrolink Antelope Valley Line, especially those riders in northern Los Angeles County utilizing the Burbank Bob Hope Airport.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by contract administrator's Brian P. Mahaffey, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7327.

High Density Equipment (IFB)

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure High Density Equipment. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, February 24, 2016 through Thursday, August 25, 2016.

This procurement is for the purchase of four (4) Vertical Lift Modules, two (2) double rows of adjustable racking and 98 pallets.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Aryani L. Guzman, Assistant Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1387.

Construction Notices – Blue Line, I-5

Metro Blue Line: Bus Shuttle and Expo Rail Replaces Blue Line – Between 7th st/Metro Ctr and Vernon Stations

- Stations will be closed for upgrade work including electrical track maintenance
- Expo Line Rail out of 7th St/Metro Ctr and Bus Shuttles will replace Blue Line rail service through Vernon Station
- The stations will be closed from 9:00 p.m. Friday, February 26 through Sunday, February 28, close of service
- For more details including maps and visuals of the rail and shuttle service, please click the underline link above in the title.

Caltrans Interstate 5: All construction updates

“Find the good. It’s all around you. Find it, showcase it and you’ll start believing in it.”

~Jesse Owens



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