

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Touring the Gerald Desmond Bridge

Yesterday, I joined Caltrans District 7 Director and Metro Board Member Carrie Bowen and Chief Program Management Officer Rick Clarke in Long Beach for the Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement Project's Executive Steering Committee (ESC) meeting and a tour of the project site. It was great to get a firsthand look at the massive Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.

The existing, and the new, Desmond Bridge is such an integral part of the entire nation's economy. However, built in the 1960's, it now needs an upgrade to handle today's heavy traffic volumes, newer technologies and larger ships which will keep our region at the forefront of shipping and goods movement. In response, Metro partnered with Caltrans, the Port of Long Beach and the USDOT to facilitate the bridge's replacement.

Upon completion, the new bridge will feature a number of improvements, including three additional lanes in each direction to improve traffic flow, a 205-foot vertical clearance to accommodate newer "megaships" and a bikeway. New emergency lanes on both sides will also reduce safety hazards and protect motorists who experience an accident or vehicle breakdown.

I am pleased to say that construction is about 35 percent complete and that the bridge is set to open to westbound traffic in late 2017. The replacement of the Gerald Desmond Bridge will ensure that we are prepared to meet the transportation needs of the future.



Park Mesa Heights Community Walk

Yesterday, I joined Metro staff and Walsh Shea Corridor Constructors staff to meet and greet with Park Mesa Heights business owners who have been impacted by the construction of the Crenshaw/LAX Transit project. Since April, Walsh Shea has been in the process of replacing curbs, gutters and sidewalks in the Park Mesa Heights area, resulting in some community and business disruptions. Throughout our walk, I was able to receive feedback from community members about our construction practices and address some of their concerns. I was moved by the sincere appreciation the local business owners expressed for Metro's visit. Many of these business owners can not afford to leave their business to come to meet us at Metro headquarters to discuss their issues; therefore, it truly meant a lot to them for us to get out there. Metro is committed to working with the communities and businesses impacted by construction to help solve issues the best we can.



The White House Recognizes Metro's Community Solar Initiative

On Tuesday, the White House Office of the Press Secretary issued a press release recognizing Metro's commitment to the deployment of a Community Solar Program for our line up of capital projects. This trailblazing new program will bring solar energy to communities throughout the LA region and will represent a significant investment in communities and renewable energy over the near and long term. Metro is the first public transportation agency to pursue a community solar program, which builds on our success of deploying approximately 7 megawatts of renewable energy by the end of fiscal year 2017, with a goal of 66 percent renewable energy use by 2022.

The program was one of the many Risk Allocation Matrix strategies approved by the Board in January 2016 and is scheduled to be deployed later this fiscal year. The full White House Press release can be found [here](#).

Ribbon Cutting of the Carmenita Road Bridge in I-5 South Corridor

On Monday, Metro Board Chair and City of Duarte Councilmember John Fasana, Metro Board Member and LA County Supervisor Don Knabe, and Metro Board Member and Caltrans District 7 Director Carrie Bowen were joined by United States Congresswomen Linda Sanchez and Loretta Sanchez, California State Senator Tony Mendoza, California Assembly Member Ian Calderon and Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty to inaugurate the completion of the Carmenita Road Bridge. The newly constructed ten-lane bridge marks a major milestone in a series of six projects on the South Interstate 5 corridor and provides new on and off ramps which opened last weekend. Metro contributed nearly \$73 million of Measure R and Proposition C funds to this project.



Metro Bus Operator Training Academy

Also on Monday, nineteen individuals participated in the Metro Bus Operator Training Academy (BOTA) graduation ceremony. BOTA, formerly the Bridge Program, is a collaborative program between Metro, Los Angeles Valley College and the Community Career Development, Inc. (CCD). The Academy's two week program provides bus operations preparation to individuals interested in pursuing careers as bus operators. The training and graduation was held here at Metro Gateway Headquarters building. The CCD holds information and recruitment sessions on a regular basis throughout the county. Through this joint partnership, Metro has hired over 700 individuals since its program inception in 2007. Congratulations to the graduates and good luck in the recruitment process.

Universal City Pedestrian Bridge Wins Prestigious ASCE Award

I am proud to announce that last week, at a ceremony held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Downtown Los Angeles, Metro was awarded Outstanding Bridge of the Year Award by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for the Universal City Pedestrian Bridge. This aesthetically pleasing iconic structural bridge with a unique inverted open triangular design is about 400 feet long, connecting Metro's Red Line Universal City Station with NBC Universal's Tram Stop spanning over Lankershim Boulevard. The ADA compliant bridge - equipped with escalators, elevators and stairs - addresses pedestrian safety across Lankershim Boulevard and reduces traffic congestion by allowing smooth traffic flow at the intersection. The bridge was opened to public on April 7, 2016 to coincide with the opening of NBC Universal's Wizarding World of Harry Potter attraction.

During the Preliminary Engineering Phase Metro Project Team was assisted by Rios Clementi Hale Studios and Nabih Youssef Associates. The bridge was constructed by the Design-Build Contractor Griffith Company in association with Miyamoto International and Gruen Associates.



Metro Receives ISO Certification

I am proud to announce that Metro recently achieved ISO 14001:2015 certification, a world class distinction of environmental compliance and sustainability, for our Environmental Management System (EMS). Metro is the first transit agency in the nation to achieve such a distinction.

EMS is a collaborative environmental stewardship and sustainability effort administered by our Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Department and implemented at most of our bus and rail operations divisions. Our EMS serves as a model for the transportation industry and through this program, we continually mold environmental and sustainability leaders in our workforce, while significantly reducing environmental liabilities. EMS will be deployed at Divisions 13, 14 and 24 in the near future and congratulations to all of our staff involved in this transformative program.

Faith Leaders Outreach: Sunday Services

This coming Sunday, I will be attending two church services as part of Metro's ongoing commitment to working closer with the faith community and developing better partnerships with these communities we serve. I will be at Faithful Central Bible Church with Bishop Kenneth C. Ulmer and Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor George Hurtt informing faith leaders and their congregations about the multitude of transportation initiatives and programs at Metro.

Preparing Our Team for November Ballot Measure

Now that the Metro Board of Directors has approved placing a transportation sales tax ballot measure on the November ballot, it's important that all of us are informed and educated about the measure and how to talk about it. County Counsel and Human Resources recently circulated a memo outlining what we can and can't do as agency staff, although you can still share information about this very important measure. The sales tax measure – called the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan – proposes a new half-cent tax starting in 2017 and a replacement of the current Measure R tax, starting in 2039 and continuing until voters decide to end it. Our Communications Team is planning a Metro Road Show to visit the various divisions across the agency to do presentations and share information tools to make sure our Metro family is educated about the ballot measure. For now, you can access our general information and messaging document to get you started in being informed about the plan.

APTA: "No Visit to LA is Complete Without..."

This September 11-14, 2016 the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) will hold its annual meeting at the J.W. Marriott in Downtown Los Angeles. Since Metro is serving as the host agency, APTA has reached out to us to share some of our favorite things to do, see and eat in LA

County. Each response should finish the sentence: "No visit to L.A. is complete without ..." If you have an experience you think APTA members would enjoy, please [share your response](#) by the close of business on Monday, July 25. Here is our chance to show just how creative Metro can be.

Procurement Postings

Comprehensive Uniform Program (IFB)

Metro will release an Invitation for Bid (IFB) to procure a comprehensive uniform program for eligible Metro employees.

The uniform program shall be an all-inclusive uniform rental service which will also include laundry services for hand towels and floor mats. These rented uniforms will be distributed to approximately 2,356 represented labor employees at multiple sites throughout Los Angeles County. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, July 21, 2016 through Monday, May 1, 2017.

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

Construction Notices - Regional Connector Transit Project, I-5

Regional Connector Transit Project: [Pile Installation & Relocation of K-rail](#) -- Flower St & 4th St

- As part of cut and cover activities, the RCC will continue piling efforts to support excavation.
- On Saturday, July 13, the k-rail will be relocated to the southwest corner of 4th St. and Flower St.
- Starting Monday, July 25, piling efforts will continue for approximately eight weeks.
- Anticipated work hours are 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday's.
- Construction may result in the changes of bus routes or stop locations, click the link above for more information.

Caltrans Interstate 5: All Construction Updates [here](#).

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,
but people will never forget how you made them feel."

~Maya Angelou



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