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Westlake MacArthur Park Community Market Grand Opening

Yesterday, Chair of the Metro Board John Fasana emceed a press event announcing a one-year pilot street vending project at the Westlake/ MacArthur Park Station alongside our partners, L.A. County Supervisor and Metro Board Member Hilda Solis, L.A. City Council Member Gil Cedillo, Central City Neighborhood Partners and Union de Vendedores Ambulantes (Union of Street Vendors). The agreement seeks to allow street vending on the station’s plaza, but in a regulated manner to achieve a host of goals. These include, eliminating unpermitted street vending, reducing crime, and ensuring safe access to the station and boarding, while transforming the station plaza into an inviting community environment. A total of 34 booths and 68 spaces will be made available on a daily basis for local street vendors and one booth will be made available for local nonprofits to conduct outreach and education on a rotating basis. This initiative is part of Metro's efforts to establish innovative "Problem-Oriented Policing" strategies to address long-term concerns about blight and disorder at stations. The strategy aims to reduce crime by involving public and private organizations in the reduction of community problems.
COMTO Recognizes Metro Leadership

Yesterday, several Metro leaders were recognized at the Southern California Regional Chapter of Conference Minority Transportation Officials’ (COMTO) 2017 Women Leaders of Southern California Awards in Long Beach. COMTO recognized Metro Chief Financial Officer Nalini Ahuja, DEO of Real Estate Velma Marshall, Senior Executive Officer of Regional Rail Jeanet Owens and several other inspiring women leaders in Southern California, whose public service contributions have significantly impacted the surrounding communities and transportation industry. This wonderful event also featured a keynote address by City of Long Beach Mayor and Metro Board Member Robert Garcia, as well as Guest Speaker America’s Transit Practice Leader at AECOM Carolyn Flowers. Congratulations to our remarkable women from Metro – keep up the great work and continue to inspire all of us to strive for excellence.

Honoring a Legend: Bob Bartlett Plaque/Division Dedication

On Tuesday, I joined Chair of the Metro Board John Fasana, Former County Supervisor and Metro Director Michael Antonovich, Mayor of Monrovia Tom Adams and other local elected officials at the Monrovia Gold Line Operations Campus and the City's Gold Line Station, to dedicate plaques in honor of the late Monrovia Mayor Robert T "Bob" Bartlett. Bob Bartlett served the city of Monrovia in various civic capacities for 27 years and was instrumental in spearheading the City's rebirth, including the revitalization of Old Town and other major city destinations. Bartlett was the city of Monrovia’s first African-American city council member and mayor. He became mayor in 1988 and served until 2001 before passing away in October 2015 at age 75.

During his long tenure as a civic leader, Bob also helped create the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, Foothill Transit and the Gold Line Construction Authority. In addition to the plaque at Division 24, the Division itself has been renamed to “Division 24: Robert ‘Bob’ Bartlett Monrovia Operations & Maintenance Facility” with the appropriate signage. It was a pleasure honoring a legend and I am very thankful for the legacy that Mr. Bartlett has left behind.
Telephone Town Hall for Metro FY18 Budget

Also on Tuesday, over 3,000 residents from throughout Los Angeles County participated in our latest telephone town hall meeting. The bilingual English/Spanish meeting provided an update on Measure M progress and sought the public's input on our plans for our FY18 budget. The virtual nature of these meetings makes it easy and convenient for people in all parts of the County to ask questions about Metro programs, plans and progress. This telephone town hall program was a success during the Measure M educational outreach period so we were happy to bring this model back for the public input on Metro's FY18 budget.

It's Time for the Dodger Stadium Express!

With the pleasant spring weather upon us, baseball is back and so is the Dodger Stadium Express (DSE). Tomorrow, Saturday, April 1, the Dodgers host the Angels for the last bit of preseason action. Be sure to beat traffic and parking by taking DSE from either Union Station or various stops in the South Bay, starting at the Harbor Gateway Transit Center. The service will continue through the 2017 baseball season. You can find more details and information including a service map on The Source.
Procurement Postings

Experienced Food Services Operator for Gateway HQ and Central Maintenance Facility (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposal (RFP) to procure an experienced food services operator for the MTA Headquarters and the Central Maintenance Facility.

Metro is seeking an experienced Food Services Operator (“Operator”) to provide a high quality food service operation at the MTA Headquarters Building and the Central Maintenance Facility. The services provided may include, but are not limited to (1) operating a full service cafeteria open to MTA employees, Board members and the public; (2) providing food service for conferences and special meetings; (3) catering special events and (4) providing vending machines.

The procurement blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, April 6, 2017 through August 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.

Inspection of Metro Structures (RFP) - Small Business Prime

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure the architectural and engineering (A&E) services of a Contractor to inspect Metro's structures. This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, March 30, 2017 through Thursday, July 6, 2017.

The purpose of this procurement is to inspect structures such as bridges, tunnels, subway stations, aerial structures and stations within the Metro rail system.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Ana Rodriguez, Contract Administration Manager, at (213) 922-1076.

Metro Safety Awards and Recognition Program (RFP)

Listed below is the required information for a planned procurement in accordance with CEO Brief Procurement Notification.

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure the services of a qualified vendor(s) to develop, implement, and manage a quality and effective corporate Safety Awards and Recognition Program.

The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, April 3, 2017 through Monday, July 24, 2017.

Metro is seeking services from vendors that can deliver exceptional customer service and provide a turnkey Safety Awards & Recognition Program that meets the needs of our diverse workforce.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Marc Margoni, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1304.

Construction Notices: Purple Line Extension Project, I-5

Beginning Friday, March 31 at 8pm thru Monday, April 3 at 6am, there will be a full closure of Wilshire Blvd. from Fairfax Ave. to Spaulding Ave. to support the start of the Fairfax decking operation. Click the underline title above for the full construction notice.

Caltrans Interstate 5: All Construction Updates here.

"Always do your best, what you plant now, you will harvest later." - Og Mandino