

# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

**Phillip A. Washington**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Monday, November 5, 2018**

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### **Go Vote: Free Public Transportation on Election Day**

Tomorrow, Metro bus, bike and rail, Access Services and select municipal transit operators, will offer free service all day to help improve voter turnout throughout Los Angeles County. Many registered voters point to transportation as being a major barrier to getting to their polling place to vote. With a Metro Board approved Motion from the October Board cycle, Metro will be offering free service Tuesday, November 6, 2018 from 12: 00 a.m. to midnight operating normal weekday service. Participating transit partners are

Baldwin Park Transit, LADOT, Long Beach Transit, Pasadena Transit, and Santa Clarita Transit. Let your family, friends and neighbors know that Metro is here to get them to the polls.

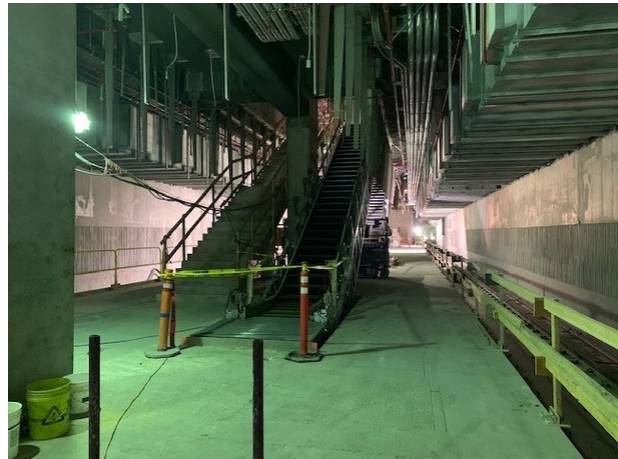
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### **Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project Site Visit and Community Briefing**

On Thursday, I visited the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project to review progress on the new light-rail line, tour the construction sites, and meet with representatives from our one of our prime contractors, Walsh Shea Corridor Constructors. The project is steadily progressing, currently nearing 90% completion, with a crucial component of the Crenshaw Project, the Southwestern Yard Maintenance Facility, set to open in Winter 2019. Last weekend we marked a significant milestone when we moved the first rail cars into the new facility to begin testing. The facility will house and maintain the rail cars that will serve the Crenshaw and Green Lines.

On the mainline, construction at each of the eight new stations is proceeding nicely with street restoration work underway near the underground stations. About 90% of the railroad track has been installed on the project and major systems and electrical work is currently underway. Following the site visit, I met with community members representing the diverse neighborhoods along the alignment.

I know that construction is difficult for residents and businesses, and many were pleased when I shared with them that the third and final major closure of Crenshaw Boulevard will be lifted in late November. At the meeting I also provided updates on construction progress, the Crenshaw/LAX & Green Line Operating Plan, the Airport Metro Connector station, and the Metro Transportation School. We are extremely grateful for the community's patience as we build a world-class light rail line and look forward to seeing more progress.



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### **Second Episode of SLT Unplugged with Deputy CEO Stephanie Wiggins**

Last week, Metro Communications hosted their second episode of SLT Unplugged with Deputy CEO Stephanie Wiggins interviewed by Chief Risk, Safety and Asset Management Officer Greg Kildare. The board room reached capacity from employees that wanted an opportunity to listen to our Deputy CEO's story including her career path, thoughts on leadership, and networking. The audience received valuable tips on how to move forward with their own career path. Stephanie revealed how she sees challenges as opportunities, values the development of relationships more than dinner reception networking, and recommended chasing experiences, not titles. To watch the recorded episode, please click [here](#).



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### **Metro's Women and Girls Governing Council Passes the Torch**

Last week, Metro's Women and Girls Governing Council (WGGC) welcomed the second cohort of council members who were very happy to be a part of the new chapter for the Council. The new members are excited and looking forward to contributing their experience to find ways to remove barriers and expand opportunities for women and girls. The meeting was also in part to celebrate and thank the first cohort and acknowledge their accomplishments.

I am proud to share that the first cohort presented 9 innovative and comprehensive recommendations that will help advance women in the transportation industry and remove barriers for our women and girls ridership. I would like to thank them for their hard work and dedication to accelerate change and progress for women. I would also like to thank all the Senior Leadership in attendance that joined me in welcoming the second cohort of the WGGC and for their support of respective staffers participating on the council. I am excited to hear their recommendations on how they plan to impact, advance and empower women and girls.

To learn more about the first WGGC and their accomplishments this past year, view the Board Box [here](#).





## November is National Native American Heritage Month

As Metro continues its path to increase awareness through our Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan, we want to formally recognize November as National Native American Heritage Month. In 1990 President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 “National American Indian Heritage Month.” Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including “Native American Heritage Month” and “National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month”) have been issued each year since 1994. This month, Metro reflects on the many contributions Native American communities have made to the American culture.

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## 3rd Annual Employers' Roundtable Panel and Career Fair

Last week, Metro's Talent Development team hosted the 3rd Annual Employers' Roundtable Panel and Career Fair for Metro Entry Level Trainee Program (ELTP) and Metro Internship Program (MIP) employees. Metro Deputy CEO Stephanie Wiggins delivered opening remarks to kick-off the networking and informative event. Many employers joined us here on the 4th floor patio including transit, education, and private industry partners from Long Beach Transit, Los Angeles World Airports, SCAG, East Los Angeles College, Union Pacific, Proterra United Parcel Service and many others. Our Metro young professionals attended excellent workshops on interview preparations and tips, creating winning resumes, and career services.

This was a very successful event that could not have been possible without our industry partners including Federal Transit Administrator in Los Angeles Ray Tellis. Lastly, thanks to Talent Management Executive Officer Patrice McElory, Talent Development Senior Director Marion Colston and their teams who helped organize this career fair for our young professionals.



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## Metro Supports Congresswoman Napolitano Military Academy Day

Last weekend, Metro supported U.S. Congresswoman Grace F. Napolitano's 32nd District of California Military Academy Day. Metro Veterans Program Manager Dennis Tucker, Transportation Associate II Asiya Khwaja and Candyce Fabre, and Transportation Associate I Jonathan Jones represented the organization in its efforts to attract and retain top talent that aligns with Metro's vision. Metro conveyed the need to provide top class customer service while also showcasing additional opportunities through our Transportation Career Academy Program (TCAP) which provide summer internship opportunities to junior and senior high school students who are transit dependent, reside in LA County, live close to a Metro Rail station and whose schools are located near a Metro rail expansion effort.

This informative session provides all students, interested in pursuing a nomination to one of the five service academies, with a proper orientation and guidance to begin the process with Congresswoman Napolitano's office. Representatives from each service academy include US Military Academy at West Point, US Naval Academy, US Air Force Academy, US Merchant Marine Academy, US Coast Guard Academy, US Marine Corps, Army National Guard, & Sunburst Academy.



### 3rd Annual Older Adult Transportation Expo

Metro's On the Move Riders Program hosted its 3rd Annual Older Adult Transportation Expo on Friday, October 26 at The Center at Cathedral Plaza. Metro Chief Communications Officer Pauletta Tonilas opened the program and expressed Metro's commitment to improving the mobility needs of older adults through major transit projects set by the "Twenty-Eight by 2028" plan. The event also featured presentations by AARP's Safe Driver Program, LA Walks' advocacy work and a panel discussion led by our very own volunteer Travel Buddies. Metro Community Relations Deputy Executive Officer Yvette Rapose concluded the program and thanked the exhibitors and event sponsors. Over 500 older adults attended the event and had the opportunity to learn more about the benefits of riding public transit and received numerous resources from over 20 organizations, including registering for a free senior far TAP card.



### Metro Supports 4th Annual Greater Los Angeles Veteran Stand Down

Metro recently participated in the Greater Los Angeles 4th Annual Veteran Stand-Down Event. The Stand-Down opportunity is a collaborated partnership with all the major resource facilities within the South LA, Long Beach, and West LA area providing the necessary assistance for veterans.

This special occasion provided an opportunity for Veterans of all branches of the military to come together and receive support and services to help improve their lives. The event hosted 100 vendors and over 400 Veterans and their families throughout the day. Services included assistance with employment, housing, legal, dental, medical and vision exams, mental health, clothing and hygiene kits, haircuts, and much more. Metro's Mobile Customer Service (MCC) staff provided on-site Reduced Fare processing of temporary application.

I would like to thank each and every person that collaborated in efforts to ensure our agency was well represented in full force at the event. This includes Veterans Program Assistant, Mayra Plascencia, in collaboration with MCC staffers Tanisha Young and Renisha Green.



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### **Law Enforcement Meet and Greet**

Last week, Metro Community Education hosted its quarterly Law Enforcement Meet and Greet at the Harbor Gateway Transit Center. The event allowed passengers traveling on the Silver Line to share their transit experiences, ask questions and provide comments and suggestions to the law enforcement agencies who patrol Metro's transit system. Representatives from the Los Angeles and Long Beach Police Departments and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department shared safety traveling tips, instructions on what to do in case of an emergency, and how to notify authorities.

The Law Enforcement Meet and Greets are held at different locations throughout the Metro system. Previous Meet and Greets have been held at Union Station, Mariachi Plaza, Downtown Santa Monica and Willowbrook/Rosa Parks. This is an excellent way to get to know the communities we serve, we look forward to the next one.





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### **Metro Tennis Team is Best in the Industry**

Last Sunday, the Metro tennis team competed in a corporate tournament at the Lakewood Tennis Center and took home the 1st place trophy. The Metro team played in the 38th Annual Holiday Bowl Classic Tournament against teams from Boeing, Southern California Edison, Northrop Grumman, Aerospace Corporation, and JPL, and pulled off a resounding victory. The Metro team won 68% of their overall games played. This is the first time Metro has won the Holiday Bowl after 14 years of competing. Team co-captain Steve Ramsey said after the match, "Over the years, we have had quite a few 4th or 5th place finishes but the team has shown great improvement in the past couple of years; it definitely feels great to finally win this tournament!"

The Metro team also won first place in the Spring 2018 Bunny Bowl corporate tournament and hopes to continue this trend. Team members consist of the following Metro employees representing various departments throughout the agency: Jackie Bobo-Fabre, Steve Ramsey, Julia Salinas, Patricia Francisco, Joe Caldito, Jane Caldito, Thomas Traylor, Christian Warner, Gerald Tomsic, Paul King, and Laurie Moroch. Their next tournament will be in April 2019. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jackie Bobo-Fabre at [BoboFabreJ@metro.net](mailto:BoboFabreJ@metro.net) or Steve Ramsey at [RamseyS@metro.net](mailto:RamseyS@metro.net).



## Halloween is for our Kids

During the 14th Annual “HALLOWEEN IS FOR OUR KIDS” parade this year, Metro Customer Care (MCC) staff had an opportunity to engage and focus on the high energy, excitement and appreciation of our precious Metro Child Care Kids. They strutted their stuff, displayed their outfits and held their bags wide open knowing staff had ‘stuff’ to drop in.

MCC welcomed about twenty-five children plus some parents and facility personnel, who walked around the 2nd floor Metro Call Center. Their big Halloween bags were overflowing with sweets as they left back to the Child Care Center to show their “treats”. Metro also sent about 35 pre-packaged ‘Halloween Baggies’ for the kids who could not join the walk. Executive Officer of Customer Care Gail Harvey stated “After the kids initially walked around the Plaza, those who had been here before, really look forward to visiting our department. Halloween is for the kids and we enjoy celebrating them and seeing their smiles.”

This event was coordinated by the Activities Committee comprised of Anabel Amante, Maryann Coss, Joshua Cuevas, Gaston Guess, Anthony Johnson, Stacy Medina, Deborah Muralles, Cynthia Rodriguez, Ryan Montoya, Alonzo Williams, Paula Grigsby and Gail M. Harvey. Thank you to all of our organizers.



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## Procurement Postings

### Construction Claims Support Services (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a Construction Claims Support Services (CCSS) to provide Claims consulting services. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from November 2, 2018 through, March 5, 2019.

Metro intends to contract the services of a Construction Claims Support Services (CCSS) to assist Metro in proactively addressing potential consultant and contractor claims, recommend policy and procedures to reduce likelihood of claims, assist in addressing actual consultant and contractor claims, formulate claims settlement scenarios, assist County Counsel in resolving disputes and assist with and/or perform forensic analyses, as necessary.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Bruce Warrensford, Director of Contract Administration at (213) 922-7338.

### Sustainability Engineering Services for Water Resources, Conservation and Compliance (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select a Consultant to address water resources and conservation goals of Metro's sustainability effort including the preparation of analyses, studies, surveys, investigations, modeling, predictions, recommendations, and/or reports related to the operation and maintenance of Metro's transportation systems, facilities, and support activities.



The resultant Contract, if awarded, will be state/locally funded, and is subject to fiscal year funding FY19 through FY22. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from November 7, 2018 through May 8, 2019.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Daniel A. Robb, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7074.

Ultrasonic Rail Flaw Detection Testing (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bid (IFB) to procure ultrasonic rail flaw testing services. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, November 2, 2018 through Friday, November 30, 2018.

The Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is procuring services for a one time contract to perform an Ultrasonic Rail Flaw Detection Inspection of Metro's main line rail transit system (approximately 210 miles). Contractor shall use an Ultrasonic Rail Vehicle to inspect Metro's main line tracks in accordance with FRA Track Safety Standards 213.237.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Victor Zepeda, Contract Administrator at [zepedav@metro.net](mailto:zepedav@metro.net).

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**Construction Notices: Patsaouras Bus Plaza, Regional Connector, I-5**

Patsaouras Bus Plaza Station Project

The I-10 eastbound HOV/Busway lane, between Alameda Street and Mission Rd., will be closed Tuesday, November 6, 2018, early morning, between the hours of 2:30am to 5:00am, as construction crews perform project related work.

Regional Connector: Train Communications Line Work on Flower St

The Regional Connector Constructors (RCC) will begin construction on a train communications line on Flower St and 7th St, to tie the Regional Connector Transit Project to the existing station at 7th St/Metro Center.

Work is anticipated to continue for approximately six to nine months. Anticipated work hours, weather permitting, are 9 am to 3:30 pm and 9 pm to 5 am, Monday through Friday, and 7 am to 6 pm, Saturday and Sunday.

Thru traffic reduced during work hours on:

- Westbound 7th St, between Flower St and Figueroa
- Southbound Figueroa St between 7th St and 6th St

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

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"There is nothing noble in being superior to your fellow man; true nobility is being superior to your former self."

~ Ernest Hemingway

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