

# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

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## In this Issue

- [Eno Center for Transportation Workshop on Governance and Institutional Reform](#)
- [Transportation Leaders Inspire Audience at Profiles in Leadership - Black History Month](#)
- [Black History Month Leadership Spotlight: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas](#)
- [JAC Maintenance Specialist Apprentices Graduate Training Program](#)
- [West Side Central Older Adult Transportation Pop-Up Expo](#)
- [Metro's Regional Connector Transit Project Exemplifies Safety on the Job](#)
- [Community Relations Continues to Build Awareness for the Regional Connector Transit Project](#)
- [Next Stop: Retirement](#)
- [Procurement Postings](#)
- [Construction Notices](#)

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### Eno Center for Transportation Workshop on Governance and Institutional Reform

Last week in New York, the Eno Center for Transportation (Eno) with the support of the Reason Foundation hosted a workshop on issues related to governance and institutional reform in the transportation sector. I joined a group of about 25 individuals to discuss these transportation and institutional reform issues over a two-day working group.

America is experiencing a period of disruptive economic, demographic, and technological changes. In particular, new problems and opportunities have been introduced by extraordinary transitions in vehicle technology, transportation operations, and business models that promise to change our concepts of mobility and accessibility. Most of these promised changes are driven by the private sector, and the public's institutional framework must step-up to meet these challenges. During this two-day workshop we discussed whether existing transportation governance structures, operating practices, and funding mechanisms are well suited to respond to these disruptive changes. We do not have the answers to solve all the issues we face but working groups like these are important steps toward reaching an understanding and solving the issues we face.

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### Transportation Leaders Inspire Audience at Profiles in Leadership - Black History Month

Last week, Metro Board Member Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker joined Metro Chief System Security & Law

Enforcement Officer Alex Wiggins, Metro Deputy Executive Officer Tashai Smith and Metro Senior Executive Officer Errol Taylor for a panel discussion in celebration of Black History Month. The panelists delivered insightful and inspiring words related to times of segregation in Florida, leadership and changes with Metro's safety and law enforcement, career moves and accepting opportunities. The panel session was closed out by a beautiful rendition of "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing", often referred to as the "Black National Anthem" sang by Metro Diversity & Economic Opportunity (DEOD) Representative Janice Davis.

The Profiles in Leadership panel was the second edition of this event focused on local leaders in transportation who discussed their career paths, inspiration and influences, leadership styles, challenges and other informative and inspiring topics. I want to thank Metro Manager of External Affairs JC Lacey for moderating this panel and Metro Director of DEOD Miriam "Mimi" Long for delivering welcoming remarks. The panel discussion was recorded and can be viewed in two parts: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).



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### **Black History Month Leadership Spotlight: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas**

In recognition of Black History Month, we want to spotlight Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board Member Mark Ridley-Thomas. Metro and many residents of Los Angeles County's Second District proudly acknowledge the outstanding civic leadership that Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has displayed over his decades of public service in Southern California. At Metro, he has made his mark as a profound leader by promoting local hiring and opportunities for small and minority owned business enterprises, Metro ExpressLanes projects, the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project, expanding the student pass program, and equity in transportation and services.

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas was first elected to public office in 1991 and served with distinction on the Los Angeles City Council for nearly twelve years, departing as Council President pro Tempore. He later served two terms in the California State Assembly, where he chaired the Jobs, Economic Development, and Economy Committee and served the Assembly Democratic Caucus. His legislative work addressed a broad range of issues with implications for economic and workforce development, health care, public safety,

education, budget accountability, consumer protection and civic participation. The Supervisor’s political career was preceded by a decade of service as the executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Greater Los Angeles (1981-1991).

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas served as Chair of the Metro Board of Directors through a very busy Fiscal Year, 2016. As Chair, the Supervisor oversaw the development, various board decisions and community engagement activities related to the Measure M Ballot Measure, two major rail extension openings and the celebration of 25 years of Metro rail; as well as the groundbreaking of significant milestones along the Crenshaw/LAX Line including the groundbreaking of the maintenance facility, the lowering of the Tunnel Boring Machine – Harriet, and the halfway completion of the construction project. He displayed an amazing dedication to the responsibilities of Metro Board Chair. Metro thanks and appreciates Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas for his steadfast commitment to serving the communities of Los Angeles County.




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**JAC Maintenance Specialist Apprentices Graduate Training Program**

The Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) program affords current Metro Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) represented employees an opportunity to qualify for careers as Maintenance Specialists, Signals Inspectors, Traction Power Inspectors, and Track Inspectors. I am pleased to inform that twenty employees representing various Bus Divisions recently graduated from the Maintenance Specialist apprentice training program.

The JAC consists of three members from both Metro and ATU who partner to select and train apprentices who will sustain our growing rail infrastructure. Apprentices enter the Maintenance Specialist training program with a minimum of 24 units of previous electro-mechanical training from an accredited educational institution. The 12 to 18 month training program includes technical instruction in rail vehicle maintenance such as Propulsion, Braking, Mainline Recovery, and a host of other topics. Please join me in congratulating the following graduates on their hard-earned accomplishment.

Bernanrd De Leon	Ruperto Martin	Juan Ballesteros	Cristobal Perez
Kevin Lopez	Thant Thein	Dana Daniels	Salvador Gaeta
Carlos Rodriguez	Jorge Castro	Paul Flores	Clemente Torres
Jesus Rivera	Minh Ton	Enrique Davalos-Rodriguez	Timothy Humphrey
Victor Urrutia	Raul Esquivel	Ernie Vasquez	Johnny Vu

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**West Side Central Older Adult Transportation Pop-Up Expo**

Last Tuesday, Metro’s Community Education and Culver City co-hosted a senior-friendly Transportation Resource Pop-Up to provide educational presentations that highlighted Metro’s On the Move Riders Program and other transit related programs available for older adults. Attendees were invited to an upcoming Cultural Transit Tour along the Expo line, where some participants will experience riding Metro for the first time, make new friends, and gain exciting new experiences. The goal of the program is to provide older adults with the

tools and confidence to use public transportation. Event participants were treated to on-site senior TAP card services provided by Metro's Mobile Customer Center as well as other resources by Metro's LIFE program, Metro's Law Enforcement, AARP, Culver City Bus, Access Services, Metrolink, LADOT and Big Blue Bus. A special thanks to all of Metro's partners in this event. If you would like to learn more about the program please reach out to Lilly Ortiz at (213) 922-2299.



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### **Metro's Regional Connector Transit Project Exemplifies Safety on the Job**

I would like to recognize the hard work and dedication to safety by Regional Connector Constructors, a joint venture of Skanska and Traylor Bros., and the entire Regional Connector Transit Project team. The project has reached a safety milestone of over a year (approximately 725,000 work hours) without any recordable injuries.

Additionally, in January, after a five-hour safety inspection, a representative from Cal/OSHA issued a zero-corrective report to the project. I would like to congratulate Metro Construction Safety Manager Pat Chism, Designated Senior Safety Manager Michelle Jones, RCC Safety Manager Jim Goddard, and RCC Safety Representatives, Jerry Mendoza and Frank Cobos for their leadership.

Safety remains Metro's number one priority in 2019 and beyond. The emphasis on safety throughout the construction process reduces chances of injury to workers, helps to prevent downtime, and boosts the overall productivity and morale of the entire team.

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### **Community Relations Continues to Build Awareness for the Regional Connector Transit Project**

As Metro continues investing in building more rail and bus service, it's important that we do all we can to also build community support for each capital construction project. At the Regional Connector, the community relations team started 2019 with in-person outreach to neighborhood stakeholders.

At the Little Tokyo Towers, a senior living complex, the team gave a presentation on safety awareness around work sites to four dozen Japanese and Japanese-American residents, relying on Japanese translators to help overcome any possible language barriers.

At the other end of the alignment, the Regional Connector team set up shop at the Bank of America Plaza lobby and farmers market, with the goal of spreading the news about the project. An estimated 200 residents and workers stopped by the info booth and learned about the project.

The Regional Connector Transit Project will add two miles of light rail, through downtown LA, by connecting the Metro Gold, Blue, and Expo Lines and create a north-to-south and east-to-west one-seat ride experience, while adding three new stations to the system.



### Next Stop: Retirement

Serving the public many years through Metro and our predecessor agencies is truly a special commitment. I want to recognize and say thank you to those who have retired this past month after serving at Metro for more than 15 years. We sincerely appreciate all the hard work, dedication, and time that went into improving the mobility of Los Angeles County. I am sure you have inspired others through your accomplishments and have served as a role model to those that are beginning their careers at Metro. We wish you all a wonderful retirement full of happiness, success and good health.

Name	Title/Division	Years of Service
Ignatius Arellano	Bus Operator - Division 18	44
Michael Palmer	Master Mechanic Lead - CMS	40
Adolfo L. Soto	Mechanic A - Division 9	38.75
Ernest S. Pringle	Facilities System Tech. - Facilities Maintenance	38.5
James Arend	Train Operator - Blue Line	36
Luis Saco	Senior Service Attendant - Division 9	31.25
Alexander Dexter	Bus Operator - Division 15	30.25
Russell E. Homan	Director, Rail Fleet Services - Monrovia	29
Leyverth Rodriguez	Bus Operator - Division 15	28.25
Dante D. Ronquillo	Storekeeper - Logistics	27.75
Francisco C. Villareal	Bus Operator - Division 9	27.5
George Coates	Sr. Inspector General Investigator - IG	24.5
Man Chan	Maintenance Specialist - Division 22	23
King Chang	Senior Engineer - Vehicle Technology & Acquisition	18.5
Harmik Minassian	Scheduling Systems Project Leader - Gateway	15.25
Antonio Chua	Digital System Technician - Gateway	15

## Procurement Postings

### Division 20 Portal Widening Turnback TPSS (IFB)

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure a Contractor to supply, deliver, install, test and commission a Traction Power Supply Substation (TPSS); a Utility Incoming Metering Switchgear, and Emergency Backup Power System (EBPS) Generator in the Metro Division 20 Red Line rail yard. The Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy will apply to this Procurement. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Tuesday, February 19, 2019 to Friday, May 10, 2019.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Diana Dai-Tsang, Principal Contract Administrator, at (213) 418-3310.

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## Construction Notices: Regional Connector, I-5

### Regional Connector: Deck Panel Removal for Excavation on Flower St

Excavation of the tunnel box below Flower St continues in downtown Los Angeles as part of efforts to connect the Regional Connector Transit Project to the existing 7th St/Metro Center Station. In order to effectively build the tunnel box, crews will remove segments of the road deck panels on weekdays during daytime hours, between 5th and 6th St with minimal impacts to the traveling public. To learn more, click [here](#) for the full construction notice.

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

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"A man who stands for nothing will fall for anything."

~ Malcolm X

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6:30am - 7pm (Monday - Friday)

8:00am - 4:30pm (Saturday/Sunday)



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