

# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

Phillip A. Washington  
Chief Executive Officer

Monday, April 15, 2019

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### WTS International Woman of the Year is at Metro

I want to congratulate Metro Interim Chief of Staff Nadine Lee for being selected as WTS International Woman of the Year. Each of the nearly 60 Chapters in WTS presents this award at their chapter level which Nadine received the LA Chapter's award in November 2018. The LA Chapter proceeded to submit Nadine's application for the International recognition and was selected for her many accomplishments in transportation, specifically for leading the development of the Metro Vision 2028 Plan. This prestigious award will be presented to her at the Awards Gala on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at the Annual Conference in Boston. Please join me in congratulating our Interim Chief of Staff Nadine Lee for this outstanding international recognition for her salient contributions and trailblazing leadership in the transportation industry.

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### Community Engagement at the Site of the Future SEED LA Transportation School

On April 6, Metro staff from the E3 Youth Initiative, WIN-LA, and NextGen participated in the Spring Fling community event hosted by the Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas at the future site of SEED LA, the transportation school. The Spring Fling event was an opportunity to engage the local community and promote awareness about the mixed used development on the site which will include the transportation school, 180 units of affordable housing, retail outlets, a transit plaza, and a Metro training center. Metro's participation in this event is part of an ongoing effort to provide outreach and information, and to expose the community to

career opportunities in transportation. Staff educated attendees on job and training opportunities through WIN-LA, Transportation Careers Academy Program (TCAP), Internships, Entry Level Trainee Program (ELTP) and requested participation in the NextGen study through surveys. Metro will continue to join Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' office for monthly community engagement events on the development site until the groundbreaking in 2020.



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### **Aging into the Future with Metro's On The Move Riders Program**

On April 6, Metro's On The Move Rider's program (OTMRP) and Via joined forces to provide a technology-focused demonstration for 700 older adults at the Aging into the Future Conference held at the L.A. Convention Center. The team taught older adults how to download and use the Metro and Transit Watch apps, plan their public transportation trips online, and discussed Metro's newest technology features in operational and customer services. OTMRP also discussed the health benefits of using public transportation and how the existing partnership between Metro and Via's rideshare program can support older riders bridge their first/last mile gap. The conference included several organizations highlighting their public services, breakthroughs in technology, and guest speakers who discussed creative collaboration and the importance of health and activity for older adults.





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### Chicago Transit Authority Visits LA Metro for Insights

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) contacted Interim Chief Communications Officer, Yvette Rapose, about Metro’s award-winning Construction Relations programming. A Skype call was enough to convince the CTA to see the work in person. Anthony Crump, Deputy Executive Officer (Interim) of Community Relations, welcomed representatives from the CTA to share insights on construction relations, stakeholder engagement strategies, and small business mitigation programs.

Jeff Wilson, CTA Government and Community Relations Director, Tammy Chase, CTA Director of Communications and Media Relations, and CTA Associate Jamie Simone, are about to embark on their own capital construction project and turned to our expert staff to discuss community outreach best practices, learn about innovative construction mitigation programs (like Metro’s *Eat Shop Play* campaign and the Metro Business Interruption Fund), and delved deep into management policies on procurement and subcontracting. The group was also treated to a tour of the future Little Tokyo/Arts District Station, part the Regional Connector Transit Project.

While Metro’s work is focused on enhancing LA County’s mobility and transit system, visits like these remind us that our work is driving the dialogue at the national scale and we can be proud to be an example for other transit agencies at home and abroad.



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### Metro Launches Spring Series of WSAB Public Rail Tours

On April 13, we launched a series of guided rail tours of the Gold Line and Expo Line for stakeholders along the West Santa Ana Branch (WSAB) Transit Corridor. This 19-mile light rail transit line, currently in the planning phase, will connect southeast Los Angeles County to downtown Los Angeles. The tours are open to the public and are intended to provide community members along the corridor with a better understanding of

key Light Rail Transit features like what is being evaluated for the WSAB Project, including: station design and connections; aerial and at-grade alignments and stations; sound wall considerations; and multi-modal access.

Prior to these public tours, we conducted two tours for elected officials and agency staff on April 4 and April 6 with participation from representatives of the cities of Artesia, Bell, Cerritos, Cudahy, Paramount and South Gate; the Port of Long Beach; the offices of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, Assemblymembers Cristina Garcia and Miguel Santiago, and Orange County Supervisor Andrew Do; and deputies from the offices of Metro Board Members Garcetti, Garcia and Hahn.

Tours will continue on select Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through June. For those unable to participate, a video recording of the tour will be available on the project [website](#) after completion of the tour series. For more information, please view the official tour flyer [here](#) or contact Julia Brown at [brownju@metro.net](mailto:brownju@metro.net).



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## Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit Community Updates

Over the last few weeks, we've been updating the community in the San Fernando Valley (SFV) about the Metro Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Improvements Project. We held open houses in North Hollywood, Canoga Park and also provided an update at the SFV Service Council meeting. The community learned about the latest construction developments for the quadrant gates and grade separations, the results of ongoing traffic and noise analysis studies and an update on the arrival of Zero Emission Buses, which are expected to deploy throughout 2019. Metro staff was on hand to answer questions from attendees, who also provided comments in writing and by leaving post-it notes on roll-out maps of the Orange Line at each meeting.

Los Angeles City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield stopped by the Canoga Park meeting to offer his support for the project. Also, staff from the offices of LA County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair Sheila Kuehl, Senator Bob Hertzberg and LA Councilmember and Board Director Paul Krekorian and LA Councilmember Nury Martinez attended the meetings, along with local residents, business owners, Neighborhood Council members, and representatives from local Chambers of Commerce, the Warner Center TMO and Pierce College.

We would like to especially thank retiring Metro DEO Gary Spivack, who actively participated in this latest round of meetings, for his dedication to the Orange Line since its inception. Metro looks forward to keeping the public informed as construction progresses for this project that will improve travel times and increase capacity for this successful BRT line, as well as provide important safety benefits. The project is scheduled to open in Winter 2024/2025. To view the presentation from these meetings, [click here](#).

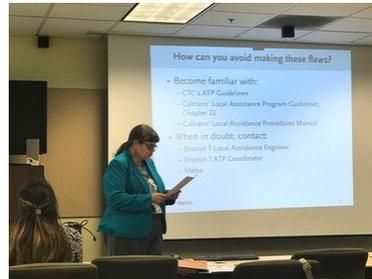


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## Metro and Caltrans Delivery Support Workshops

Metro and Caltrans recently completed five public workshops throughout the County to assist local agencies with implementation of Federal and State funded projects. Topics covered by Metro staff included FTIP processes, SB1 Local Streets and Roads submittals, and ATP project implementation. Caltrans District 7 Local Assistance Engineers were also on hand to go over obligation plans, upcoming trainings, and new procedures for federal project authorizations. Over 89 local agency staff members attended, representing 19 Cities and the County of Los Angeles.

These workshops are the first in a series of quarterly meetings designed to encourage partnership and ongoing coordination between local agency staff, Metro, and Caltrans, in part by presenting training on how to plan and implement local projects utilizing Federal, State and local funding. Future meetings will include specialized subjects and guest presentations that will train staff in various aspects of project delivery. Metro and Caltrans staff will continue to work in getting the word out about these training sessions so that more cities attend with the goal of maximizing the amount of State and Federal funds secured and increasing successful project delivery to improve transportation in Los Angeles County.



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## Metro Offers Free Bus and Rail Service on Earth Day

In celebration of Earth Day on Monday, April 22, Metro is offering free bus and train rides all day on our buses and trains. The intent behind the free rides is to encourage people to take transit to help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in Los Angeles County. Taking a bus or train instead of driving alone is a great way to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions your activities produce. It is also a high-impact way to reduce your household's greenhouse gases. Metrolink commuter rail service and Metro Bike Share will also be offering free service on Earth Day. For more information and details including the promo code for the Bike Share Service, visit [The Source](#).



**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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Division</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>
Francisco Guzman	Mechanic A - Division 9	43.75
John Ulysses	Bus Operator - Division 18	43
Jesus Flores	Mechanic A - Division 13	41.25
Emily Matias	Manager - Human Resources	34.25
Mary L. Montez	Equipment Maintenance Sup. - CMS	33.5
Dale R. Lanz	Sr. Departl. Sys. Analyst - Fleet Management	31.5
Rickey C. Six	Bus Operator - Division 7	31.5
Joel D. Smith	Senior Service Attendant - Division 18	31.5
Manjit H. Singh	Train Operator - Red Line Division 20	29.25
Albert Sola	Air Condition Tech Leader - Facilities Maint.	29.25
Fabian G. Maruri	Bus Operator - Division 9	29
Arnulfo Cania	Bus Operator - Division 7	25.25
Ricardo J. Tan	Bus Operator - Division 15	25
Gregory Awosika	Bus Operator - Division 18	22
Maria Canales	Bus Operator - Division 3	21.5
Edgar Rogel	Schedule Checker - Scheduling	20.5
Charles Grayson	Train Operator - Blue Line	20
Petronilo Benavidez	Maintenance Specialist - Blue Line	19.25
Michael P. Vu	Electronic Communication Tech - CMS	19.25
Thi V. Vu	Maintenance Specialist - Blue Line	19
Vivian V. Jones	Bus Operator - Division 5	18.5
Ernest J. Lugo	Sr. Service Attendant - CMS	18.5
Toyin A. James	General Services Sup. - Wayside Sys. Svcs.	18.25

Lee Edmond	Sr. Service Attendant - Division 18	17.5
Wayne Anderson	Rail Transit Ops. Supervisor - Green Line	16.25
Sual Garcia	Rail Equipment Maint. Supervisor - Red Line	15.75

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## Procurement Postings

### Bellows (IFB)

Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure bellows for air-suspension. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, April 17, 2019 through Friday, August 30, 2019.

This procurement is for the purchase of bellows for the air-suspension needed to maintain the bus fleet and thus avoid disruption in service. Award of a contract will provide a commitment from the supplier to ensure availability at a fixed, competitive price.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Tanya Allen, Procurement Planning Administrator at (213) 922-1018.

### ITS Department Assessment, Optimize Strategy, Training and Coaching, and Meeting Facilitation Services (RFP) - Small Business Prime

Metro will release a Request for Proposal (RFP) to obtain professional services for ITS Department Assessment, Optimize Strategy, Training and Coaching, and Meeting Facilitation Services. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, April 17, 2019 through Tuesday, June 25, 2019.

Metro is seeking professional services to include but not limited to Assessment, Communication Strategy, Training and Coaching, and Meeting Facilitation for Metro's Information and Technology Services (ITS).

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Annie Duong, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 418-3048.

### I-405 Sepulveda Pass Phase I ExpressLanes Project and Environmental Document (PAED) and Concept of Operations (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit the preparation of the Project Report and Environmental Document for the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Phase I ExpressLanes and Concept of Operations Project. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, April 15, 2019 through Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

Metro will seek proposals from well-qualified professional and technical firms for development of the PAED and Concept of Operations for the potential implementation of a High Occupancy Toll on Interstate 405 between Interstate 10 and US-101.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Andrew Conriquez, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-3528.

### El Monte Transit Center Concourse Level Ventilation Modifications (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure a contractor to provide construction and commissioning of modifications to the ventilation system at the concourse level of the El Monte Transit Center, located at 3501 Santa Anita Avenue, El Monte, CA 91737. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from April 15, 2019 to June 27, 2019.

The intent of this project is to correct current exhaust system deficiencies, re-calibrate gas detection monitors and provide remote access to Building Automation System at the existing site.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Diana Sogomonyan, Principal Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-7243.

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### **Construction Notices: Regional Connector, Purple Line Extension, 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.

#### Regional Connector: Excavation on Flower St Continues Southward

Work continues steadily below Flower St, with rebar and concrete installation between 4th and 5th St. South of 5th St, excavation and utility hanging is moving steadily towards the future connection to 7th St/Metro Center Station. Ultimately, some 108,000 cubic yards of soil will be excavated from beneath Flower St. Work will continue from May 8, 2017 and continue through summer 2019.

#### Purple Line Extension Project: Utility Potholing below Wilshire Blvd

Utility potholing began to identify existing utilities below Wilshire Blvd. between Beverly Dr. and N. Crescent Dr. All work will be completed during non-peak hour traffic times. Lane closures and turn restrictions on Wilshire Blvd. will be required for this work. Two lanes will always be maintained on Wilshire Blvd. both eastbound and westbound. Communication efforts will be ongoing to provide stakeholders sufficient notice prior to work starting in specific areas.

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

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"Work hard, stay positive, and get up early. It's the best part of the day."

~ George E. Allen, Sr.

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