

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

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The Last of the Great Train Stations Celebrates 80 Years of Service

Last Friday, I joined Los Angeles County Supervisor and Metro Board Member Hilda Solis, Metrolink Board Chair Brian Humphrey, representatives from Amtrak and Caltrans and members of the community to kick off the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of Los Angeles Union Station. Often referred to as “the Last of the Great Train Stations,” Union Station opened on May 3, 1939 with a lavish, star-studded, three-day celebration attended by a half a million people. To celebrate its 80th Anniversary, Metro has scheduled two days of events to mark this milestone with live music, a model train exhibition, arts and crafts, live performances, community exhibitors, guided tours and photo opportunities. Food vendors, a marketplace, artisans and food trucks will also participate in festivities.

In the 80 years since its opening, Union Station has captured the spirit and soul of Los Angeles and has emerged as a vital and symbolic gateway to the promise of the California Dream. With the comprehensive plans for its future and the incredible work Metro has already done to preserve, restore and transform Union Station back to its original glory, we look forward to the station serving Los Angeles residents and visitors for another 80 years to come.



The Future of the Automobile at Petersen Automotive Museum

Last Friday, I joined Los Angeles Department of Transportation General Manager Seleta Reynolds, Director of Aerospace & Defense at LAEDC Judy Kruger and David Derosa of AECOM for a panel discussion at the Future of the Automobile conference at the Petersen Automotive Museum. Our panel, “Where the Sidewalk Ends: The Future of Infrastructure and City Planning,” took a look at infrastructure changes and transformations brought about by the evolution of the automobile and mobility within the urban environment. I specifically spoke about the rising costs of construction, leadership on the bold vision of congestion relief pricing, the prospects of a passenger rail car manufacturing facility in southern California, the need for an efficient training process to produce qualified transportation and infrastructure workers. Other panelists spoke about job creation in this new industry of mobility, managing data and the regulation of scooters, and other city planning and designing topics. I want to thank the Petersen Automotive Museum staff for inviting me to participate in these important discussions.



Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month: Leadership Spotlight - Dr. Cris B. Liban, P.E.

In recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I want to recognize Dr. Cris B. Liban, P.E., Metro Executive Officer in the Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Department. Cris leads our internationally acclaimed environmental, sustainability, and energy initiatives and with his team has brought many environmental firsts and awards, revenue, and environmental leadership throughout our organization.

He is currently an appointed Commissioner in the City and County of LA: Transportation and Beach. Also, originally appointed during the Obama Administration as a member of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) National Council of Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT), Cris was re-appointed in November 2018 to NACEPT and continues to provide sound and independent advice to the USEPA Administrator on national environmental policies.

Cris immigrated with his parents and siblings to the United States when he was a teenager following the completion of his high school and college education in the Philippines. Cris worked full-time as an engineer while he went to school to earn a Master's and PhD. He finished his doctorate in Environmental Science and Engineering at UCLA with a \$1M grant that he independently secured for his dissertation.

Cris was the Board Chair of the 501(c)(3) organization Filipino-American Services Group, Inc. based in LA's Historic Filipinotown. In November 2018 he facilitated the formation of the Metro FilAm Group, the first Asian American employee association here at LA Metro. He is currently the Chair of the American Society of Civil Engineers' National Committee on Sustainability, one of the largest engineering associations in the world. He is also a Board Member of Harvard University's Zofnass Program Sustainable Infrastructure Advisory Board.

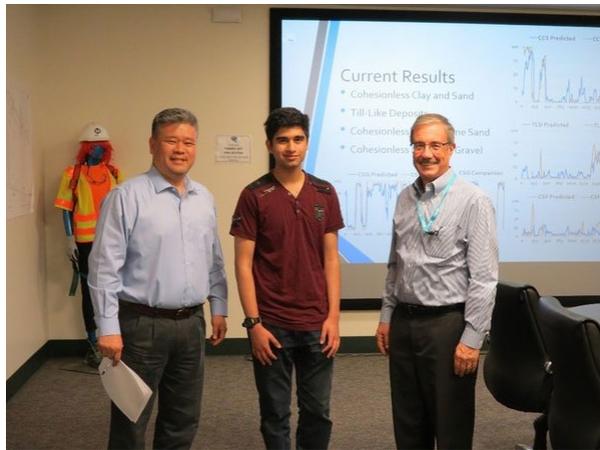
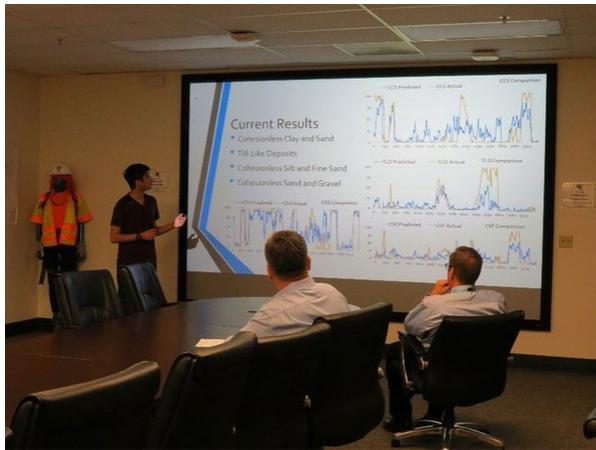
A recipient of multiple professional and civic awards, Cris is most proud of his receipt in 2016 of the Philippines' highest overseas Filipinos civilian award, the Pamana ng Pilipino Award, from Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte for his contributions to and expertise in transportation, environment, and sustainability to effect social change; and thus, bringing honor and recognition to the Philippines and the Filipino people.



Cal State LA Student Presents Research to Regional Connector Team

Kabir Nagrecha, a Cal State LA data science undergraduate student, recently met with Metro Executive Officer Gary Baker and the Regional Connector project staff and presented research findings on developing machine learning and artificial intelligence technology to predict soil composition during tunnel boring machine (TBM) operations. Kabir approached the project earlier this year, expressing interest in the Regional Connector's TBM drives. Curious about the potential insights and eager to promote career pathways in STEM, the project team was happy to support his research by providing data samples from the project's TBM.

With this data, Kabir and his research group created a model that can, in theory, analyze the soil at the face of a tunnel boring machine and forecast the type of soil the machine will encounter. Kabir believes that this work, once fully realized, could help reduce down time and improve excavation speeds, in addition to minimizing the potential for damage to tunneling equipment. The project staff was intrigued by Kabir's findings and appreciated learning about how data science, and young scholars like Kabir, are shaping the future of the tunneling industry.



Travel Training Tour Hosted by Metro Community Education

Last Monday, Metro's Community Education (MCE) team organized a trip for parents of students from Adams Middle School to familiarize them with the Metro rail system and trip planning process. The trip started at the school and ended at Union Station. Their travel included a ride on the Local 40 Bus, and Metro Blue and Red train lines. The parents learned how to safely navigate the system, purchase and load a TAP Card and how to apply for a reduced fare K-12 TAP card for their kids. This trip is an example of the travel training programs MCE offers to the community to encourage mass transit and a break from personal vehicle driving. School groups along the Blue, Expo and Gold train lines are welcome to receive more information and schedule a similar trip, by calling MCE Department at (213) 922-4080.



Dodger Day for the On The Move Riders Program

Metro's On the Move Riders Program (OTMRP) recently enjoyed a day game at Dodger Stadium. A signature part of OTMRP's work is the establishment of peer-to-peer travel training clubs throughout the County. The clubs travel monthly to fun destinations on public transportation, providing members with valuable hands-on practice using the transit system. We had over 100 older adults from 15 of our peer to peer travel training clubs on the move that Sunday. The trips began from Union Station and Harbor Gateway Center, taking Dodger Stadium Express bus to watch the Boys in Blue take on the Pittsburgh Pirates. For more information on our OTMRP please contact Lilly Ortiz at (213) 922-2299.



Lunch and Learns for the Small Business Community

During the first week of May, Metro Diversity & Economic Opportunity Department (DEOD) hosted a daily series of Lunch and Learns for the small business community. The purpose of this effort was to make the community fluent in Metro programs, tools, jargon and opportunities. Over the week, DEOD and Vendor/Contract Management (VCM) senior staff and Prime Contractors conducted seminars to help decipher the Vendor Portal, plan-ahead for Metro coming opportunities and see through the eyes of Prime Contractors, what it is they look for in small businesses. Over 120 guests attended one or more of the events and gained inspiration and invaluable insights into Metro's future needs, from P3's to commodity purchases. The programs were lauded by the attendees. I want to thank our Metro VCM/DEOD team for their work on behalf of our commitment to inclusion.

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 Officially Released

As of April 30, the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) has been officially released and posted to the [Metro website](#) for public comment and review. At \$7.2 billion, the FY20 proposed budget is balanced and represents an 8.9% increase over FY19 budget. As we continue to build new rail lines, expand services and enhance service quality, we must also continue to emphasize the importance of tightened financial controls in order to maintain long term financial stability.

A public hearing on the FY20 proposed budget will be held in the Metro Board Room on Wednesday, May 15 at 12:00 p.m. The Metro Board of Directors is expected to formally adopt the FY20 proposed budget at the regular Board of Directors meeting on May 23 at 9:30 a.m.

Procurement Postings

[Metro Workers' Comp Medical Claims Review Services \(RFP\) - Small Business Prime](#)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure the services of a contractor to review Workers' Compensation Medical Claim bills. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, May 3, 2019 through Monday, September 30, 2019.

Metro is seeking the services from an experience contractor to provide Workers' Compensation Claims medical bill review services.

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.

ADA Tactile Guidance Pathway Systems (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for ADA Tactile Guidance Pathway Systems. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from May 02, 2019 through September 30, 2019.

This retrofit demonstration Project consists of installation of tactile guidance pathway systems at designated Metro stations to facilitate way finding for customers with Blindness/visual impairments (and other customers who may benefit from tactile guidance) to/from site arrival points to/from platform boarding door locations.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Josie Mellen, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1105.

Congestion Pricing Feasibility Study Communications and Public Engagement Services (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for communications and public engagement services for a Congestion Pricing Feasibility Study. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, May 6, 2019 through Friday, September 6, 2019.

Metro is seeking the services of a qualified firm to extensively, comprehensively, and genuinely engage stakeholders and the public to help solve the traffic problems in Los Angeles County and develop widespread support for a pilot program.

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.

Congestion Pricing Feasibility Technical Services (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for technical services for a Congestion Pricing Feasibility Study. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, May 6, 2019 through Friday, September 6, 2019.

Metro is seeking the services of a qualified firm to investigate the feasibility and framework for testing and implementing pricing strategies that would reduce traffic congestion and improve equity, mobility, and environmental outcomes.

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.

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](#).

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

~ Confucius

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

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

