

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer

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Metro Celebrates Pride Through the Month of June

Metro is committed to an inclusive and diverse workforce that reflects the vibrant communities we serve. That is why we are proud to celebrate 2019 LA Pride alongside our LGBT family, friends and partners from within and outside the agency. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the police raid on a New York City gay club that sparked the Stonewall Riots and the gay rights movement. This major anniversary will coincide with Metro's first-ever fully-wrapped "Ride with Pride" bus that will be a part of West Hollywood's LGBT Pride Parade on Sunday, June 9 and continue into operational service for the month. Metro's LGBT affinity group Out@Metro is coordinating Metro employee participation in the West Hollywood Pride Parade as well as other LGBT events throughout the month. For more information please see their flyer, [here](#).



The New Blue Improvements Project Makes the Half-Way Switch

Last week, I joined Metro Vice Chair and Inglewood Mayor James Butts, Metro Board Member and LA

County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Metro Board Member and Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia and Metro Board Member Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker to announce the completion of work on the southern segment of the New Blue Improvements Project and the beginning of similar construction work on the northern segment. Also, special thanks to Compton Mayor Aja Brown and Compton Councilwoman Emma Sharif for joining us for this announcement at their home station: Compton Blue Line Station.

Rail service on the southern segment from Downtown Long Beach to Compton station reopened on Saturday, June 1, as planned. Of the many improvements from this project there is one that will stick-out to customers the most: digital display cases that will be offering a variety of transit info. About 41 of these IxNTouch (pronounced “in-touch”) screens have been installed as part of Metro’s effort to improve digital offerings for trip planning, real-time info, service alerts and other communication. For more information on these IxNTouch screens, see the Source post, [here](#).



Half-Way to La Cienega Community Event for PLE Section 1

On Sunday, I joined Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Member Eric Garcetti, LA County Supervisor and Metro Board Member Mark Ridley-Thomas, Metro Board Member Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker and community partners and stakeholders at the La Brea Tar pits Park to celebrate the halfway completion mark for the first section of the Metro Purple Line Extension Project. The community event featured music and dance performances, games, giveaways and local Eat, Shop and Play vendors. Metro officials thanked the local community for its support during construction of the first four-mile subway segment between Wilshire/Western and Wilshire/La Cienega. This section of the project broke ground in late 2014 and is expected to be completed in 2023.

The Purple Line Extension to Westwood is being built in three sections. Metro broke ground on this first section of the project in November 2014. Major utility relocation work began in early 2015. In 2016, Metro’s contractor began consecutively digging three underground stations. Workers have now completed excavating the future Wilshire/La Brea and Wilshire/Fairfax station sites and are only 20 feet from reaching the bottom of the third and final station site at Wilshire/La Cienega. When completed, the Purple Line Extension will connect downtown Los Angeles and the Westside — which has the second-most jobs in the L.A. region — with high-speed, high-capacity transit service. A trip between these two dense urban centers is expected to take about 25 minutes.



First Faith Leaders Roundtable in the San Fernando Valley

Last week, I joined the first gathering of faith leaders from the San Fernando Valley and North County regions at the El Nido Family Center in Pacoima. The gathering aimed to support the development and expansion of Metro's countywide faith leaders outreach initiative. I had the opportunity to go around the room to hear from faith leaders and local community members about how their work may overlap with Metro's initiatives and how we can better collaborate to serve our communities throughout the San Fernando Valley and North County. I joined Metro staff to present several Metro programs and initiatives including a few Measure M projects in the San Fernando Valley that are currently in planning stages. I also informed them of the Orange Line Improvements Project and the early work to begin the transition to light rail.

To date, Metro has hosted faith leader roundtables in South LA, Central LA and the San Gabriel Valley. I want to thank Metro Director of Community Relations Patricia Soto and her team for building and maintaining relations with our community faith leaders as well as Rev. Fred Morris and Bishop Cortez for delivering the opening and closing prayers for this gathering. I look forward to continuing our discussions.



Metro Bike Share and LADOT Launch Electric Bikes in Central Los Angeles

In the latest initiative to improve the customer experience, Metro and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation phased in the launch of 300 electric Metro Bikes and installation of 20 new stations in Central L.A. Metro's latest, cutting edge electric bikes and station expansion are made possible through a \$2+ million California Active Transportation Program Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund grant. New pedal-assist electric Metro Bikes will provide Metro Bike Share riders with a boost of extra power for navigating local roadways, and will expand opportunities for bicyclists to complete their first/last mile connections from farther distances and to reach more elevated neighborhoods. The bikes can reach a top speed of 17 miles per hour and can travel up to 30 miles on a full charge. Users can easily identify the location of electric Metro Bikes metro.net/bikeshare and via the Metro Bike Share App.



Metro Hosted a Women Build Metro LA (WBMLA) Apprenticeship Readiness Fair

Metro hosted a Women Build Metro LA (WBMLA) Apprenticeship Readiness Fair. Metro Board Member Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker served as keynote speaker to more than 100 women in attendance to learn about construction career opportunities. Through Metro's Project Labor Agreement and Construction Careers Policy (PLA/CCP), Metro is striving to diversify the workforce on construction projects to increase access to career opportunities and serve as a catalyst for improving socio-economic status for historically underserved populations and women. Attendees learned of the opportunities that a career in construction can offer and heard from a diverse panel of speakers including from women working on Metro projects and others including engineers working on Metro's Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project and Purple Line Extension Section 3; and from an apprentice in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) who spoke of how her career path in construction turned her life around and put her on the road to financial and personal independence. The attendees left with a clear understanding of construction career opportunities and received an introduction to organizations that can help prepare them for apprenticeship such as Women in Non-Traditional Employment Roles (WINTER), HireLAX, Flintridge Center and others.

I want to thank the volunteer collaborative that coordinated and participated in the WBMLA Apprenticeship Readiness Fair including the LA/OC Building Trades and Metro's prime contractors. Also, thank you to members of our Diversity and Economic Opportunity team, Bryan Barrios, Transportation Associate; Jan Davis, Asst. DEOD Representative; Olga Lopez, Sr. DEOD Representative and Miriam Long, DEOD Director for their continued outreach and engagement efforts and a successful event.



Procurement Postings

Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) Modernization Program (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure the services of a Transit Vehicle Manufacturer to perform a mid-life modernization of Metro's P2550 LRV fleet. A U.S. Employment Plan will apply to this

Procurement. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, June 5, 2019 through Monday, April 20, 2020.

The work to be performed is to improve the performance of the Metro Gold Line P2550 LRVs by replacing and/or modernizing critical Vehicle systems and subsystems. The intent of the program is to overhaul and replace key Vehicle systems to maintain the LRVs in a state of good repair and to enhance safety, availability, and reliability.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Robert Pennington, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-5527.

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. Beginning Monday, June 3rd, 2019, additional work hours will be added from 2 pm to 11 pm.

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](#).

"We will never have true civilization until we have learned to recognize the rights of others."

~ Will Rogers

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