

# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

Monday, September 16, 2019

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### Los Angeles Metro Shows Strong Representation at RailVolution in Vancouver

Last week, Metro was very well-represented at the 25th Annual Rail~Volution Transit & Community Development Conference 2019 in Vancouver. Staff was able to engage in thoughtful discussions to share ideas and breakthroughs on a number of projects such as the Next-Gen Bus Study, the Understanding How Women Travel Study, Mobility on Demand, Transit Oriented Communities and Metro's efforts to address homelessness among others. I would like to thank Rani Narula-Woods, Elba Higueros, Meghna Khanna, Aston Greene, Claudia Galicia, Robert Calix, Elizabeth Carvajal and other Metro staff members for attending the conference in Vancouver and representing Metro at many of the scheduled events.

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### WGGC at International Conference on Women's Issues in Transportation Conference

Last week, Metro's Women and Girls Governing Council (WGGC) participated at the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 6th International Conference on Women's Issues in Transportation in Irvine. The conference brings together professionals from around the globe to explore women's transportation perspectives, challenges, achievements, and opportunities. Chief Policy Officer Elba Higueros and Senior Manager, Transportation Planning Claudia Galicia shared the goals of WGGC and the efforts to identify challenges and remove barriers to success and expand opportunities for women and girls. Additionally, Chief of Staff Nadine Lee spoke on a panel regarding the advancement of women in transportation while Senior

Director of Countywide Planning Meghna Khanna participated on a panel that discussed travel patterns of women on transit systems and how women travel study.

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## Government Alliance on Race and Equity

In February 2019, Metro established the inaugural Metro cohort for the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) - a national network of government agencies and jurisdictions working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. In-line with Metro's various equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives, the GARE program is a great opportunity to make a difference in outcomes within Metro and the greater Southern California community. The 30-member Metro team serves as a catalyst to infuse consideration for racial equity in all that we do in LA County. The inaugural cohort's mission is to undergo adequate racial equity training to share with other Metro staff, plan and organize a structure to institutionalize equity within the agency and begin steps toward developing an LA Metro Racial Equity Action Plan.

Last week, several members of the Metro GARE cohort were in Oakland, California to attend the annual GARE convening of cohorts from across the state to share the status of racial equity plans, success stories, best practices and other salient information. The two-day conference was packed with informative speakers and was organized to participate in workshops and cross-agency collaborations. Metro GARE team leader Diane Corral-Lopez, Executive Officer of Operations, represented Metro on a panel titled "Equitable Development/Planning" where she shared information on Metro's current equity initiatives, our equity platform, and a brief overview of the work we are doing with GARE.

The convening was an excellent opportunity for Metro to get a better understanding of where we stand in comparison to our peers across the state who are also working to achieve improvements and better outcomes for all communities. We want to thank the GARE organization for all the educative work and efforts they put into advancing racial equity throughout California. Lastly, special thanks to the Metro GARE team leads, Diane Corral-Lopez and Interim Executive Officer of DEOD Shalonda Baldwin, for all the work that goes into moving this important initiative forward.



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## **Metro Recognizes National Hispanic Heritage Month**

Since 1968, Americans across the nation have observed National Hispanic Heritage Month by celebrating the vast histories, cultures and contributions of Americans whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

This is a month to reflect on the achievements, advancements, broken barriers and accomplishments made by Hispanic-Americans throughout American history. At Metro, we want to acknowledge the accomplishments made in transportation and infrastructure and recognize the many Hispanic leaders within our workforce. Metro is committed to Diversity and Inclusion - Join us as we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month.

### ALMA Members at Dia de Los Dodgers

Friday, September 20, 2019

7:10 p.m.

Dodgers Stadium

### Hispanic Leaders Spotlight

September 23 – October 14, 2019

Each issue of Every Voice Counts



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## **Latinos in Transit Inaugural Leadership Summit**

On Saturday, September 14, I attended the Latinos In Transit Inaugural Leadership Summit in Newport Beach. The sold-out event gathered over 100 transit industry professionals from across the nation to share experiences and best practices in recruiting and retaining Latino transit talent. The summit included a variety of leaders from the public and private sector who shared their experiences about growth and sacrifices made to reach executive leadership. Latinx leaders also emphasized how important it is to remember your roots, give back to the community, and celebrate small successes.

I want to thank Congresswoman Grace Napolitano for highlighting LA Metro as an industry leader in her opening remarks where she also encouraged attendees to say 'yes' to opportunities and seek serving in boards and commissions to grow your careers in transportation. In addition, panelists informed of life-changing book recommendations, spoke of the importance of providing and receiving mentorship, and reminded the audience about being bold in their leadership and careers paths.

With a significant percent of Latinos in the Metro workforce, Metro was a sponsor of the event and had a

large representation. I would like to thank LIT members Metro Chief Policy Officer, Elba Higueros, and Senior Manager for Civil Rights Programs, Aida Berduo Berry, for co-chairing the summit.



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### **On the Move Riders Program - Older Adult Transportation Pop Up in Arcadia**

Last Tuesday, On the Move Riders Program and Arcadia Community Center co-hosted an Older Adult Transportation Pop-Up for San Gabriel Valley residents. This event was attended by over 120 older adults who were provided with information and resources about the benefits of using public transportation, Senior TAP cards, fun destinations to visit, and how to access fixed route transportation in their community and beyond. Metro's Mobile Customer Care Center team was on hand to intake Senior TAP applications free of charge to over 40 of the attendees. Additional agencies participated including Access Services, Foothill Transit, Pasadena Transit, Arcadia Transit, LADOT and others who provided information on routes and schedules for the local travel. If you know of an Older Adult who is interested in being part of a travel club or leading a travel club please contact Lilly Ortiz at 213-922-2299.



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### **Bill to Exempt Zero Emission Buses from State Sales Tax Passes Legislature**

I am pleased to report that Assembly Bill 784, authored by Asm. Kevin Mullin, has passed the State Legislature and will now be considered by Governor Gavin Newsom for signature into law. This measure would exempt the purchase of zero emission buses from the state sales tax. This measure is important to Metro as we continue to convert our bus fleet of over 2,300 buses to zero-emission technology. Metro has over 100 buses on order with plans for more in the near future. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will consider a motion this Tuesday to support the legislation. I would like to thank all of our Metro Board members who have communicated their continued support for legislation and policies that would

help Metro reach its zero-emission and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

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### Join the Third Cohort for the Women and Girls Governing Council

The Women and Girls Governing Council (WGGC) is an advisory working group that meets once a month to apply a gender lens while examining policies, services and programs related to Metro and transportation. WGGC is currently accepting applications to be a Councilmember on the third cohort. Be prepared to dig deep into research and analysis and work together with your teams to build a strong case for recommendations on how to make improvements within Metro.

To staff this council, we seek a diverse group of regular full-time employees from every department – contract and non-contract, entry-level to executive, who are committed to creating positive change for women and girls. Interested applicants can call (213) 922-6863 or email [wggc@metro.net](mailto:wggc@metro.net) providing a full name, badge number, and department by Friday, September 20, 2019, or simply click [here](#). Space is limited. This is a one-year council term.



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### Procurement Postings

#### Windshields - Center Complete (IFB)

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure Windshields - Center Complete. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, September 13, 2019 through Friday, December 20, 2019.

This procurement is for the purchase of windshields which are 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.

#### Copier Paper (IFB)

Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) No. VM65890 to procure Copier Paper. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Tuesday, September 17, 2019 through Friday, December 20, 2019.

This procurement is for the purchase of copier paper used in the administrative offices as well as the Copy Center to produce documents for Metro business. 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.

#### P2550 AnsaldoBreda Trainline Junction Box (IFB)

Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure Trainline Junction Boxes. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, September 19, 2019 through Thursday, October 31, 2019.

The P2550 AnsaldoBreda Trainline Junction Box is a part of the coupler and its function is to house the drum switch which in conjunction with the coupler pin and wiring allows for communication between the trains when coupled together. This procurement will develop a core bank which will allow maintenance of the junction box without interruption of revenue service.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Sherri Jackson, Sr. Manager, Contract Administration at (213) 922-1025.

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## **Construction Notices: Purple Line Extension, Regional Connector, Orange Line, I-5**

### Purple Line Extension Project: Weekend Utility Work on Wilshire Blvd.

The design-build contractor for the Purple Line Extension Project Section 2 continues utility work on Wilshire Blvd. between El Camino Dr. and Crescent Dr. Work includes potholing, sewer line relocation, water line relocation, and storm drain replacement. To expedite work, these activities will continue weekends beginning July 20, 2019 through September 29, 2019 from 8am to 8pm. Lane closures, crosswalk closures, and sidewalk closures will be required for this work. One lane will remain open in each direction on Wilshire Blvd.

### Regional Connector: Pile Installation on Alameda St and Temple St

RCC will continue utility investigation in preparation for pile installation along northbound Alameda St, within the Mangrove yard and at Temple St. Anticipate lane reductions on Alameda St and Temple St. Pile installation is anticipated to begin within the Mangrove yard on Monday, July 29, 2019, and continue for approximately four months.

Anticipated work hours are:

- Monday through Friday, from 7 am to 9 pm
- Saturday, from 8 am to 6 pm

### Temporary closure of Orange Line North Hollywood Station Bus Terminal to start July 28

Metro plans to convert its entire fleet of buses to zero emission buses by 2030. The first phase of the transition will launch on the Orange Line with the deployment of battery electric buses. To accommodate the new buses, Metro will be installing bus charging stations at the Orange Line North Hollywood Station. Due to this construction activity, the Orange Line North Hollywood bus terminal will be closed beginning Sunday, July 28, through Oct. 31.

The temporary pick up/drop off locations will be relocated to the following:

- Board buses at northwest corner of Lankershim and Chandler.
- Exit buses at southeast corner of Lankershim and Cumpston.

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

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"The thing you have to be prepared for is that other people don't always dream your dream."

~ Linda Ronstadt



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