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In this Issue

- [Snoop Dogg Hosts the Grand Reopening of the A Line](#)
- [Metro Hosts First Women's Business Summit](#)
- [Team La Chancía Wins the Fall Metro Softball Tournament](#)
- [15th Annual Metro Gateway Child Care Halloween Parade](#)
- [Crenshaw Northern Extension Is in the Line-Up](#)
- [Metro and Caltrans Host Workshops on Local Project Delivery](#)
- [Community Meetings Recently Held for West Santa Ana Branch Project](#)
- [Metro Releases First Limited Edition "Art on TAP" Commemorative Cards](#)
- [E3 Youth Initiative Update](#)
- [Procurement Postings](#)
- [Construction Notices](#)

Snoop Dogg Hosts the Grand Reopening of the A Line

On Saturday, November 2, Metro officially reopened the former Metro Blue Line as the new and improved A Line following a two-phase closure for construction that began in January 2019. I joined Metro Chair and Inglewood Mayor James Butts, Metro Vice Chair and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, Metro Board Member Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Metro Board Member and Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, Metro Board Member and LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn and other state and local officials at sequential community celebrations held at The Bloc in downtown Los Angeles, Watts Historic Train Station and Promenade Square in downtown Long Beach that marked the reopening of the A Line. A special thanks to Rapper and multi-platinum recording artist Snoop Dogg for emceeding the program, sharing his history of riding the Blue Line with Warren G from Long Beach to Los Angeles to get their music out and work with industry executives.

The A Line has fully reopened following completion of the \$350-million New Blue Improvements Project's northern segment between 7th St/Metro Center and Compton Station. The project brings Metro's oldest rail line up to specifications of Metro's newer rail lines and is intended to enhance the customer experience for Metro riders. This work is part of Metro's State of Good Repair program, which is all about taking care of the assets we already have and increasing the lifespan of our equipment. Rides on the A Line are free from Saturday through the end of today. It is with great pleasure that we welcome back our riders on the modernized A Line and we sincerely thank all our passengers for their patience during the work that started back in January.



Metro Hosts First Women's Business Summit

In honor of National Women Owned Small Business Month (October), we conducted our first Women's Business Summit on October 30th in the Union Station Ticketing Hall, which provided engaging sessions and workshops to guide and support small businesses interested in pursuing contracting opportunities at Metro, with the goal of maximizing small business participation on Metro contracts. This event was one of the many recommendations I approved that were made by our 2018-2019 cohort of the Women and Girl's Governing Council (WGGC).

I would like to thank Metro Chair and City of Inglewood Mayor James Butts, Metro Board Member and LA City Councilmember Paul Krekorian and Metro Board Member Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker for their welcome remarks, Tanya Motta from USDOT for providing the keynote address, and Metro Chief Vendor/Contract Management Officer Debra Avila and Mary Morgan for moderating our two panel sessions. Also thanks to the guest speakers who hosted our multiple workshops and the firms who participated in our Speed Matching with Prime Contractors session. Lastly, I also would like to give a special shout out to our Vendor/Contract Management and DEOD staff for working with the WGGC members of the Economic Development Group to help make this event such a success. For more information on WGGC, please click [here](#).





Team La Chancla Wins the Fall Metro Softball Tournament

On Saturday October 26, Metro's SMART/ATU/UTU Wellness team hosted the Fall Metro Softball Tournament at the fields at Whittier Narrows with a record high of 24 registered teams. Following a full day of friendly competition, the Championship game was between 3-time champions "All-In" of CMF and "La Chancla", a team comprised of Division 10 and Gateway employees. After the dust settled the final score was 7-3 in favor La Chancla. In total, La Chancla had a grueling day playing 5 games with their final game ending in the early evening.

A little about the Champions: The Coach is Luis Gonzalez ("Big Lou" – Division 10) and the team is anchored with Monica Born (Program Management), Kelly Ebinger (Division 10), Desarae Jones (Government Relations), Jose Santana (Division 10), Erika Wilder (Environmental Compliance), and Janet Yee (Talent Development).

The tournament is a fun, family-friendly wellness activity hosted every spring and fall. A special thank you to the tournament organizers, volunteers and players. I encourage all our Metro family to keep activity and wellness as a top priority in your life – this is one way to have fun being active. Keep your eye out for sign-ups and dates for the fall 2020 tournament.



15th Annual Metro Gateway Child Care Halloween Parade

Metro Gateway Child Care Kids performed their annual Halloween Parade around the Plaza Lobby on Halloween morning with many people waiting to welcome them with plenty of treats and goodies. Following their parade, the kids were swooped up by Customer Care staff and taken to the 2nd floor where customer care agents were having a "Monster Mash" celebration in the Metro Contact Center. The staff escorted more than 40 kids, who were accompanied by their teachers and parents and their overflowing candy bags.

Before leaving, Alonzo Williams the Mad Hatter and Gail Harvey the Witch gave out individual goodie bags to each child and were able to corral the kids for a few group photos. “Our staff have as much fun as the kids,” said executive officer, Gail Harvey, “and we look forward to them returning next year”.

This event was coordinated by the Activity Committee comprised of Ryan Montoya, Cynthia Rodriguez, Becky Rakisits, Elana Parpari, Yvonne Goytia, Stacy Medina, Daniela Marquez, Paula Grigsby, Alonzo Williams and Gail Harvey.



Crenshaw Northern Extension Is in the Line-Up

The Crenshaw Northern Extension project completed the last round of community meetings for its Advanced Alternatives Screening Study. Four meetings were held between October 22 and October 29 in West Hollywood, and the neighborhoods of West Adams, Carthay Circle/Central Los Angeles and Beverly Grove. Staff responded to questions and collected input from the more than 120 people who participated.

This study is evaluating five potential alignments to extend the Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail Line north from the Expo Line with connections to the Metro Purple and Red lines and five of our top 10 busiest bus lines. Potential alignments are projecting impressive ridership numbers between 77,700 and 90,800 average daily boardings with significant travel time savings to key destinations.

Measure M allocated \$2.24 billion for this project with a groundbreaking of 2041 to be completed in 2047. As part of Metro’s Early Project Delivery Strategy adopted by the Metro Board in November 2017, the City of West Hollywood is exploring ways to provide funding to accelerate the project. We anticipate recommending the most promising alternatives to the Board this winter for further study in the environmental review process.



Metro and Caltrans Host Workshops on Local Project Delivery

Metro recently concluded five workshops for cities providing assistance to them in obtaining and delivering

State and Federal grants. Held October 21-29, this is the third set of meetings this year and we have seen steady growth and participation from local agencies. This round, more than 30 agencies attended for a total of 200 participants.

The first four meetings focused on Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) adoption, Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant Program, Metro policies on Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 5 and an Introduction to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) approvals for projects. These were held in Santa Clarita, Paramount, Long Beach and Pasadena and included speakers from Metro, as well as from Caltrans District 7 and Headquarters staff.

A fifth meeting was held at Metro where Caltrans repeated a class from an earlier cycle on “Invoicing 101” which drew over 60 people. Due to the popularity of the topic, the class was videotaped and will be posted online and available to local cities to review as needed. Metro will continue this quarterly workshop program providing technical assistance to local agencies in 2020.



Community Meetings Recently Held for West Santa Ana Branch Project

We recently concluded the latest round of community meetings for the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor (WSAB) Project. Meetings were held in Little Tokyo, Bellflower and Huntington Park to update stakeholders and community members on the Initial Operating Segment (IOS) options, Public Private Partnership consideration, and the project schedule. Approximately 186 people attended these meetings including staff from the offices of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, State Senator Lena Gonzalez, and Assemblymember Miguel Santiago; Metro Board Directors Hilda Solis, Janice Hahn and Robert Garcia; the cities of Bellflower, Cerritos, Huntington Park and South Gate; and the Metro Gateway Cities Service Council. All meeting materials and a video recording of the presentation will be made available on the project website at metro.net/wsab.

Metro Releases First Limited Edition "Art on TAP" Commemorative Cards

Metro's first limited edition “Art on TAP” cards featuring artworks commissioned by Metro Art launched exclusively on the (Blue) A Line last week. The initial three artwork designs are *The Journey Home* by Eric Almanza, *Last Stop* by Jazmine Atienza and *Kid* by Angela Willcocks. The artworks are portraits of A Line riders created by local artists as part of a new series entitled *More People Than You Know*. The portraits evoke both intimate and universal stories of those who use this vital transit line. The entire series of twelve portraits is also featured on the new digital screens installed at each of the A Line stations. For details, including where to purchase the cards, visit [The Source](#).



E3 Youth Initiative Update

Metro representatives including Veterans Program Manager Dennis Tucker, Director of E3 Youth Initiative Pamela Christian, and Manager of Diversity & Economic Opportunity Michael Flores, met with Tasha Stiger, Program Manager, Office of Diversion and Reentry D.O.O.R.S. Center, and toured the new facility at the Office of Probation on Vermont and 39th Street in South LA. Opportunities to engage the Fair Chance population to consider employment opportunities at Metro were discussed. D.O.O.R.S., which stands for Developing Opportunities and Offering Reentry Solutions, is a collaborative effort between the LA County Probation Department, the Office of Diversion & Reentry, numerous community-based organizations, and other County agencies dedicated to providing critical services and life-stabilizing resources for individuals on probation and their families.

Together, service providers at D.O.O.R.S. will assist over 3,000 adult and juvenile probation clients – as well as all community members – with housing, legal aid, job training, civic engagement, health and mental health services, and more. By addressing the core needs of individuals transitioning out of incarceration, the County hopes to reduce recidivism and make a positive impact on the lives of people affected by the criminal justice system. An article about D.O.O.R.S. is available, [here](#).

Also, last week, Pamela Christian and Metro Senior Manager, Equipment Maintenance, Harold Torres, participated in the William Workman High School Student Symposium. Chemistry teacher Merek Chang, who participated in the Metro Teacher Externship Program this past summer, prepared a project-based learning curriculum requiring students to design an energy efficient bus route incorporating a stop within a ¼ mile of Workman High School. Students considered the environmental and social impacts of their bus-line and presented their designs to an industry panel. Metro professionals served as judges and provided feedback.



Procurement Postings

[Scaffolding at the Red Line Passenger Stations \(IFB\)](#)

Metro will release an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for Scaffolding at the Red Line Passenger Stations per specifications on file at the Office of Procurement, 1 Gateway Plaza (9th Floor), Los Angeles, CA 90012. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from November 8, 2019 through January 31, 2020.

Metro is seeking a contractor to supply labor and equipment to erect and dismantle scaffolding platforms at multiple Red Line passenger stations.

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.

Metro Center Street Construction Support Services Consultant (RFP)

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure the services of a Construction Support Services Consultant firm. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from November 7, 2019 through February 5, 2020.

The Construction Support Services Consultant (CSSC) shall provide support and services to LACMTA during the design and construction of the Metro Center Street D/B Project (Project). The Project consist of a minimum 80,000 square feet, four-story building that will be built in phases. The first phase consists of the core and shell of the building with minimum 91 at-grade parking stalls, ground floor lobby, and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and new Security Operations Center (SOC) co-located on one floor. The Second phase will include the tenant improvements for the Rail Operations Center (ROC) and Bus Operations Center (BOC), and all associated work.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Rafael Vasquez, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 418-3036.

Mobility Application Solution (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit a no-cost partnership with an existing software application provider that can provide a multimodal transportation mobile application solution that will deliver reliable and consistent access to various modes of transportation systems and improve mobility. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, October 31, 2019 through Monday, January 13, 2020.

The ideal solution is anticipated to dramatically improve the Metro customer experience, create consistency across all Metro digital touch points including Metro.net and customer information panels, and enhance both the accuracy of Metro's customer facing data and the performance of Metro's application program interface (API). Further, in order to provide a seamless and consistent customer experience, the proposed solution should have the ability to be uncoupled from the mobile application and be made available as general journey-planning, real-time arrival data, and service alert notifications within Metro.net and Metro's train stations, bus stops and vehicle digital displays. Services should be made available to share with public service providers in the region and to help customers book complex linked trips using a variety of mode options with multiple municipal and regional operators.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Manchi Yi, Contract Administration Manager, at (213) 418-3332.

Downtown Santa Monica Artwork Installation Services (RFP) - Small Business Prime

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a contractor to install artwork at the Metro Downtown Santa Monica Station. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from November 4, 2019 through February 3, 2020.

Metro is seeking contractor services for the installation of artwork at Downtown Santa Monica Station. The purpose is to provide services and furnish items incidental to producing a complete and acceptable artwork installation.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only

be answered by Erica Rodriguez, Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1064.

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

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

Purple Line Extension: Orange Grove Closure at Wilshire Blvd

Orange Grove Ave. south of Wilshire Blvd. and north of 8th St. will be closed for 8 months starting Friday, October 18. The existing sound walls will be extended west to surround the closure area, which is required to construct the Wilshire/Fairfax Station. Residents of Orange Grove Ave. will continue to have access.

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

"Do not take life too seriously. You will never get out of it alive."

~ Elbert Hubbard

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

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

