

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

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Regional Connector Project Receives Project of the Year Award

On Monday, November 18, the Regional Connector project received the coveted Project of the Year Award at the International Tunneling and Underground Space Association (ITA) in Miami, Florida. The project was selected among an impressive list of 6 international finalists in the 50 to 500 million Euro category. Since 2015, the international competition "the ITA Tunneling Awards" seeks and rewards the most ground-breaking innovation and outstanding projects in tunneling and underground space use.

The Regional Connector Project was selected for its unique approach that requires a variety of construction techniques: Tunnel Boring Machine, Sequential Excavation Machine, and cut-and-cover, all within a dense urban environment, adjacent to and underneath numerous iconic and historic buildings in Downtown Los Angeles. It is also well known that this project faced unexpected underground obstruction challenges which were quickly overcome through innovative solutions and close coordination with partners. I want to congratulate Project Manager Gary Baker and the entire Regional Connector team for this outstanding achievement. The finalists included:

- Mexico, Toluca Suburban Rail - 2 parallel tunnels in Mexico City
- China, Beijing-Zhangjiakou High Speed Railway - New tunnel and Great Wall Station
- USA, Regional Connector Transit Project
- Hong Kong, China, SCL Immersed Tube Tunnels
- Norway, The New Ulriken Tunnel



Community Relations Participates in the 30th Annual Mariachi Festival

Last week, Metro Community Education (MCE) and Regional Connector staff participated in the 30th Annual Mariachi Festival and Saint Cecilia Celebration. The event was attended by an estimated 5,000 musicians and residents, near the Mariachi Plaza Gold Line Station. Many attendees stopped by Metro's resource table where they picked up transit safety information, interacted with staff through rail safety games, safety giveaways, and received a progress report on the Metro Regional Connector Project.

MCE showcased Safetyville videos which conveyed rail safety messages and reinforced line-specific safety reminders at local Gold Line stations. The videos focused specifically on safety tips at Pico-Aliso Station where Metro is highlighting the importance of only using marked crosswalks to access the proper station entrance. Participation in this event is part of Metro's ongoing effort to build a safety culture around the Metro system and within the Boyle Heights community. To learn more about Community Education please contact Jaime Arroyo at (213) 922-7012.



NoHo to Pasadena BRT Project Wraps up Community Visioning Workshops

The North Hollywood to Pasadena Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) team completed community visioning workshops

where approximately 200 participants participated in interactive activities that will help inform the project's Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Workshop attendees worked in groups around tables with a facilitator assisting in taking them through three exercises -- a virtual survey where participants shared their choices for enhanced station, streetscape and landscape amenities; a priority pyramid exercise that helped identify stakeholders' key transportation priorities and an "Envision Your Street/Route" exercise where participants built out how a BRT might operate in their communities. The results of this last exercise were then shared with everyone in attendance. This interactive format allowed participants to work collaboratively and have their views heard by others at their table as well as the whole group.

Workshops were held in Pasadena, Eagle Rock, Glendale, Burbank and North Hollywood. A special thank you to Metro Board Member Ara Najarian for his participation at the Glendale workshop and to the staff members of the Metro Directors Eric Garcetti, Paul Krekorian, Hilda Solis and Kathryn Barger for attending the different workshops held throughout the corridor. Staff members from the cities of Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena and Los Angeles also attended the workshops and provided valuable information. Please view the project update [video](#) to get a good recap of the project planning process, what we heard during the 60-day scoping period that concluded in August 2019, and next steps. The Draft EIR is scheduled to be available for public review in Spring 2020. The North Hollywood to Pasadena BRT Project is funded by Measure M and SB1 providing \$267M. The Project has an anticipated opening date in 2024.



Operations November Employees of the Month

Metro Department recognized employees from Transportation, Maintenance and Logistics during Thursday's Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Meeting as the department's November 2019 Employees of the Month.

The Transportation Employee of the Month award was presented to Ms. Treva White, Bus Operator at West Hollywood Division 7. She is a very reliable employee who has zero avoidable accidents and missouts. Safety is a priority to Ms. White as she strives to provide safe service on a daily basis. When it comes to providing customer service, Ms. White goes above and beyond to provide the best service to our customers and to make sure they are comfortable during their trip. Her supervisor and peers enjoy working with her.

The Maintenance Employee of the Month award was presented to Mr. Peter Nguyen, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor at West Hollywood Division 7. Mr. Nguyen began his career at Metro in 2005 as a Service Attendant and has moved up the ranks to his current position as Equipment Maintenance Supervisor since 2016. Mr. Nguyen has great leadership skills. As a day shift Supervisor, he is often the driving force for productivity, setting the pace for the next 24 hours. His Master Mechanic background, along with his focus and great people skills, make him an exemplary Shop Supervisor. He has mentored several new Supervisors and Leaders. He keeps excellent administrative and technical records and shares his knowledge with anyone that wants to grow and learn.

The Logistics Employee of the 2nd Quarter was presented to Mr. Roger Potter, Material Supervisor at Gold

Line Division 24. Mr. Potter has been with Metro for 35 years, beginning his career in 1984. He is responsible for a staff of 15 employees and together they provide service 24/7, 365 days a year in support of Metro Rail Fleet and Custodial Services. Mr. Potter demonstrates consistent service by paying attention to detail, following-up, and immediately addressing any customer concerns. Due to his experience and instincts, he often foresees potential issues and acts upon them before they can become a problem. He is an excellent communicator, teacher, and to improve support and evolving needs, he is in constant contact with his customers. He cares about his staff, his customers and inspires others to achieve excellence no matter the task they are assigned to.



City-to-City Meeting with Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce

Last Monday, Metro participated in the City-to-City meeting between Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. The Boston delegation was comprised of more than thirty members and representatives including Boston Mayor Marty Walsh. The City-to-City meeting served as an industry exchange between the two Cities, which covered an array of topics, programs, and initiatives throughout Los Angeles. The delegation was interested in learning about Metro's Measure M sales tax initiative and the educational and workforce programs developed to prepare individuals in Los Angeles County with transferrable STEAM industry skills specifically focused on youth and priority populations.

Shalonda Baldwin, Deputy Executive Officer, Diversity and Economic Opportunity and Pamela Christian, Director E3, Human Capital and Development presented Metro's Workforce Initiatives Now-Los Angeles (WIN-LA) program and the SEED Transportation School during a special session titled "Paving the Way for Careers in Transit." WIN-LA and the SEED Transportation School, which are integrated in Metro's Career Pathway, were requested by the delegation due to Metro's innovative approach to employer-driven workforce development.



Unveiling the NextGen Bus Plan Improvements

Last Monday, I attended the seventh meeting of our NextGen Working Group where we unveiled the NextGen Bus Plan improvements. We highlighted the redesign of our network and bus speed capital improvements that we are proposing to make our system more frequent and reliable. We showed how more than 90% of our riders will have 15-minute headway frequency or better. More than 50 people attended representing a cross-section of stakeholders including representatives from Metro's Service Councils, environmental justice groups, business associations, educational institutions, advocacy groups, Councils of Governments, municipal bus operators, and several Metro Advisory Groups. There was a facilitated discussion on the proposal including input on what we will present to the Board before we begin sharing the proposal with the public. I thanked the Working Group members for their participation in this effort and stressed the importance of this system redesign. The Working Group will meet again in January 2020.



Contract Award & Management Training Academy Graduation

On November 5, Metro and the City of Los Angeles' Contractor Development and Bonding Assistance Program concluded their annual Contract Award & Management Training Academy with a graduation ceremony for small business participants. The academy is designed to guide participants through the process of executing a contract from its award through project completion.

The six week Contract Award & Management Training Academy began October 1, 2019 and featured construction specific curriculum instructed by prime contractors and industry experts. Classes included: negotiating contract terms, contract stipulations from a legal perspective, schedule development, project execution, cash flow management, and other topics. Special thanks to class facilitators PCL Construction, Hunt Ortmann Attorneys at Law, McCarthy Building Companies, Skanska, Flatiron, Dragados – USA, and Merriwether and Williams for facilitating the Contractor Development and Bonding Assistance Program. Metro congratulates the graduates on their achievement and for seeking information to position their company for future growth.



Procurement Postings

Chemical Fire Suppression Testing & Certification (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation to Bid (IFB) seeking the services of a qualified firm to provide annual and semi-annual inspections, recharging, hydrostatic testing and certification services for portable dry chemical, Pyro, Ansul and Halon flooding fire suppression systems, per the requirements of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), as per National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) 25 as amended by California Code of Regulations (CCR). **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement blackout period is expected to run from Monday, November 25, 2019 through Friday, January 10, 2020.

The Chemical Fire Suppression Testing and Certification Services include: inspection, testing, repair, recharging, certification, fusible link replacement and hydrostatic testing of all integral components of chemical fire suppression systems.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Rommel Hilario, Principal Contract Administrator, (213) 922-4654.

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

Regional Connector: Street Restoration closures at 1st/Alameda in DTLA

Street restoration at the 1st St and Alameda St intersection is now scheduled to start January 10, 2020. Plan ahead as lane reductions and road closures will be in place through the summer, as this work will be completed in two stages, each lasting approximately four months.

This effort marks the transition into the final phase of construction for the Regional Connector and brings it one step closer to testing and revenue operation. To learn more, click [here](#).

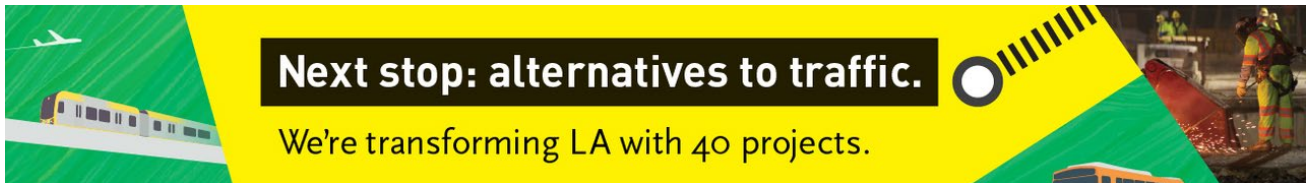
Purple Line Extension: Orange Grove Closure at Wilshire Blvd

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](#).

"Give me a place to stand and I will move the earth."

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