

# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

**Phillip A. Washington**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Monday, March 9, 2020**

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### **Bus Operator Training Academy and Fulfilling our Fair Chance Hiring Pledge**

On Friday, March 6, I attended the Bus Operator Training Academy (BOTA) graduation. This program represents a 15-year partnership between Metro Human Capital & Development, LA Valley College and Community Career Development. BOTA services are free; all enrolled applicants who successfully pass the screening process and complete the two-week academy are guaranteed an interview with Metro. With a proven track record of moving 71% of participants into on-the-job training, the BOTA Program equips candidates with the necessary tools prospective employees need to be successful with the initial stages of employment.

Friday's graduation also included graduates from "A New Way of Life," an organization dedicated to transforming the lives of formerly incarcerated women. This partnership will create Bus Operator opportunities for women seeking to reenter the workforce. Today's ceremony signifies Metro's effort in fulfilling our Los Angeles County Fair Chance Hiring Pledge to promote the full participation of justice-involved individuals in our economy.



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### **Metro Connects with Community at Restauracion LA Church - South LA**

Last week, Metro partnered with Restauración LA, one of the largest Spanish-speaking congregations in South LA, to host a "Metro Sunday" event. At the event, staff shared information and resources directly with congregants - many who are frequent Metro riders - about construction jobs, reduced fares, safety on the system, and job openings. Pastor Rene thanked Metro for attending and noted, "engaging with a Spanish-speaking Christian church is a rare opportunity, but our mission is to serve the community and we welcome anyone doing the same." This partnership arose from continued engagement with the South LA faith community through Metro's Countywide Faith Leaders Outreach program.



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### **Metro's Accessibility Unit at the Abilities Expo**

Last weekend, Metro's Office of Civil Rights hosted an exhibitor booth space and an area to showcase one of our new El Dorado buses at the 2020 Abilities Expo. The Abilities Expo was held at the Los Angeles Convention Center and is the go-to source for the community of people with disabilities, seniors, veterans and healthcare/rehabilitation professionals. This is a key annual event for Metro to reach out to people with disabilities, and older adults, to provide transportation information and resources. This year the Abilities Expo drew 11,000 attendees!

Metro staff engaged with attendees and provided key information regarding Metro services, specifically

information on applying for disabled and senior TAP cards, accessible features on Metro buses and trains, and other essential public transit information. Operators assisted customers in wheelchairs/scooters on board to demonstrate wheelchair securement. Our Safely Transporting All Riders (STAR) team provided free strapping and marking services for mobility devices. Other departments assisting our staff included Metro Operators, OCI Supervisors, On The Move Riders Program, Access Services and Metro's Accessibility Advisory Committee.

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## **Lyft and Metro Help Bridge First-Last Mile Gap**

Lyft is working with Metro to offer customers a promotion that aims to provide first-last mile options for public transit riders. Lyft customers can take \$3 Flat Fare Shared rides to select zones at Metro rail stations throughout Los Angeles. Once Lyft customers take three of these Flat Fare Shared rides, they may be eligible to receive a TAP promo code for a \$10 TAP Account credit to redeem on Metro, including Metro Bike Share, and 25 additional TAP agencies.

Eligible zones include the following Metro rail stations:

- A Line (Blue): Slauson, Vernon and Florence
- E Line (Expo): Expo/La Brea, Farmdale and Expo/Crenshaw
- L Line (Gold): Atlantic, Maravilla and East LA Civic Center

This promotion will be available until April 30, 2020. Customers will have until June 3 to redeem their promo code for their TAP account credit on *taptogo.net*.

This will be the second time that TAP has facilitated this type of experiment between Lyft and Metro to bridge the first-last mile gap to encourage alternative forms of transportation. The first promotion, in which Lyft customers who took 5 shared rides got \$20 in TAP credit, was introduced last Spring and was met with great success; approximately 3,000 Lyft customers redeemed their TAP credits, and 2,000 new TAP accounts were created. Both promotions are supported and presented by Lyft.

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## **Procurement Postings**

### Central Maintenance Facility - Cafeteria Food Service Renovation (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure a contractor to provide the renovation of the existing administration building interior, furnish and construct a new food service area at the Central Maintenance Facility (CMF) located at 470 E. Bauchet St. Los Angeles, CA 90012. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, March 9, 2020 through Wednesday, June 3, 2020.

The purpose of this project is to bring the designated area up to the current Health Codes and applicable standards as outlined in the Statement of Work. The resultant Contract, if awarded, will be locally funded, and is subject to fiscal year funding. The estimated Contract Value is between \$250,000 and \$500,000.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Vanessa Vingno, Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7574.

### Graffiti Abatement Services for Bus and Rail Facilities (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a qualified licensed Contractor to provide graffiti abatement services using chemical removal agents, a rag, and/or pressurized hot water and through the

paint-out method, throughout Metro facilities, buildings, and railroad system infrastructure, as well as Caltrans Park and Ride lots. The procurement blackout period is expected to run from Monday, March 9, 2020 through Monday, August 3, 2020.

Metro has a zero tolerance towards graffiti. All accessible graffiti must be removed within one (1) business day of being reported and non-accessible graffiti must be removed expeditiously upon securing track access and support. The requested graffiti abatement services have been split into three geographical regions as detailed in the Scope of Services. Proposers may submit proposal packages for one or more regions.

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 at (213) 922-4654.

#### Link Union Station (RFQ)

Metro released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ)/ Request for Proposals to procure a Construction Management/General Contractor (CM/GC) for the construction and improvements of Union Station, Los Angeles. The Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy will apply to this Procurement. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, March 9, 2020 to Monday, December 3, 2020.

This project is an essential phase in converting Union Station from a 'stub-end' to a run through station and increase operational capacity to meet the demands of regional rail system and new future California High Speed Rail Trains. The work under this contract will include final design and construction of all elements of the Project that includes utility relocation, street improvements, Platform #4 and Viaduct structure over the US 101 Freeway.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Fred Origel, Director, Vendor Contract Management at 323-903-4111.

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

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

Street restoration at the 1st St and Alameda St intersection is now underway and scheduled to last through August 31, 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: Utility Potholing on Constellation Blvd East of Avenue of the Stars

Starting Monday, February 17 the construction contractor continued with utility potholing on the north side of Constellation Blvd. to identify utility and soil conditions near the future station entrance. Night-time lane and sidewalk closures will be required for this work. All other lanes and sidewalks will remain accessible. To learn more, click [here](#).

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

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"Without leaps of imagination or dreaming, we lose the excitement of possibilities.  
Dreaming, after all is a form of planning."

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**Bus & Rail Transit information**

323.GO.METRO (323.466.3876)

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

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