



Monday, June 29, 2020

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June 2020 Operations Employees of the Month

Metro Operations department announced the Transportation Employee of the Month as Carlos Lizarraga, Bus Operator at Division 10. He is a Military Veteran and has 9 years of service with Metro. Mr. Lizarraga is very dedicated and is an exemplary employee with a great attendance and customer service record. He enjoys operating the bus, getting patrons safely to and from their destinations especially during these tough times of crisis.

On the maintenance front, Sergio Lopez, Senior Service Attendant at Division 13, was announced as Maintenance Employees of the Month. He has been with Metro for almost 5 years and is a very

valuable member of 1st shift. Mr. Lopez has had major contribution in the efforts of establishing this relatively new bus division (about 4 years old). He accepts all challenges and assignments with willingness and enthusiasm. The consistency and accuracy of his work has gained the respect of his peers and management team. Successes and accomplishments of Division 13 are in large part due to his dedication and work ethic.

We are virtually honoring these outstanding employees as June 2020 Operations Employees of the Month; congratulations and keep up the great work.

Office of Civil Rights and Inclusion's Courageous Conversations Online Series

Wednesday, June 17, the Office of Civil Rights and Inclusion hosted the Courageous Conversations Online Series. Employees participated by sharing their stories and experiences with supervisors and colleagues including Chief Operations Officer Jim Gallagher and Chief Auditor Shalonda Baldwin. The objective is to discuss strategies to counteract potential unconscious bias within Metro work environments. Prior to joining the conversation, participants took a LinkedIn Learning Course on "Unconscious Bias" by Stacey Gordon. The course explained that job candidates are choosing agencies that provide positive employee treatment and decision making; that it is essential to understand your biases in order to be aware and makes changes and that decisions that are based on favoritism or familiarity brings higher employment turnover.

The types of unconscious biases that were thoroughly explained in the course were: physical attributes, affinity bias, halo effect, perception, and confirmation. There are four steps to start overcoming unconscious biases: acknowledge the problem exists, ensure the widespread awareness, resolve by doing something about it, and be accountable for your actions.

Metro's Office of Civil Rights and Inclusion ensures that Metro meets or exceeds all local, state, and federal civil rights requirements by promoting universal equity for customers and employees. Please contact, Talent Development, if you are interested in taking the LinkedIn Learning Course on "[Unconscious Bias](#)" or to sign up for a LinkedIn Learning account.

Maintain Your Health and Well-Being: Metro Fitness Centers to Open

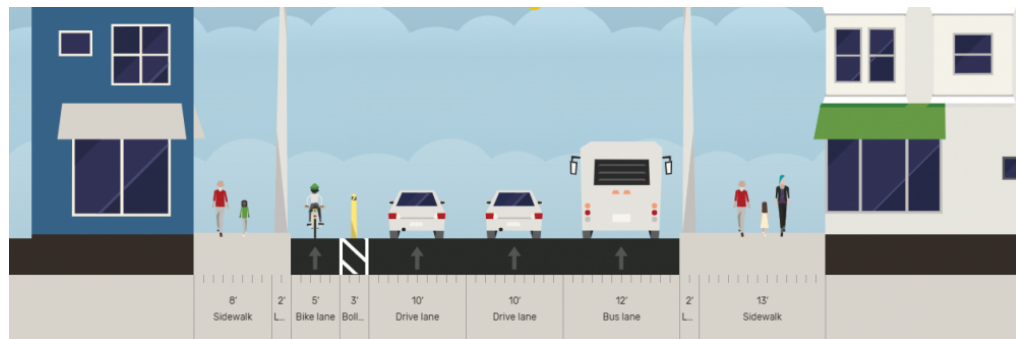
During this pandemic it is critical to maintain your health and well-being through healthy food choices and some type of exercise. As testing capabilities and preparations have helped state and local officials establish guidelines for safe reopening's of gyms and fitness centers, Metro is on path to begin phased openings of Metro fitness centers. Within the next 30 days, fitness areas and gym equipment will be opened back up for employees beginning at Metro operating divisions followed by One Fitness center at Gateway headquarters building. We will announce confirmed opening dates within the next couple of weeks.

New Bus Lanes on 5th and 6th Streets Coming to Downtown LA

In partnership with the City of Los Angeles, new bus lanes on 5th and 6th streets in Downtown LA are going to improve. The goal is to enhance mobility and safety for the thousands of people who walk, bike, roll, ride transit or drive in the area. The 5th St/6th St Improvement Project is located between Flower Street on the west and Central Avenue on the east, and will make needed road improvements and add bus only lanes to the corridor, as well as protected bike lanes from Spring Street to Central Avenue, to better connect the eastern portion of downtown to the rest of the bike lane network.

This project is one of the many recommendations resulting from the Bus Speed Engineering Working Group, authorized by the Metro Board of Directors and the L.A. City Council in July 2019. It is a collaborative effort between Metro, the Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti and LADOT to identify, design, fund and implement transit supportive infrastructure to speed up transit service as part of the NextGen Bus Plan.

For more information on the 5th St/6th St Improvement Project, please visit our [website](#).



TCAP Virtual Summer Internship Program

On Friday, June 26, 2020, Metro launched the first Transportation Careers Academy Program (TCAP) Virtual Summer Internship Program in partnership with Los Angeles Trade Tech College (LATTC). The TCAP is in its 23rd year of implementation and is one of Metro's successful pipelines for talent, career exploration, and real work experience for youth throughout Los Angeles County.

The team, led by Sr. Director Marion Jane Colston with the help of Marvin D'aCosta from LATTC, hosted 132 Student Interns on a Zoom Web-Conferencing Platform. Over the next seven weeks, students will have a firsthand look at what remote work in our new normal is like, while being provided with opportunities for project-based distance learning and social media activities focused on careers in transportation. Moreover, students received a virtual tour of LA Metro from Transportation Associate II Jonathan Jones.

Metro is demonstrating its continued commitment to introduce careers in transportation to the next generation of the workforce. Metro Communication's Department will partner with the Office of the CEO to host a CEO Talk Show with the TCAP Interns and is also working on creating an Intern Radio Talk Show where an intern leads the radio talk show and engages with industry professionals.



National Conference Features Transit Art Initiatives in Response to Crisis and Recovery

Metro Arts & Design Senior Manager Clare Haggarty was invited to lead a panel at this week's (virtual) Americans for the Arts Annual Convention. Alongside colleagues from BART, CATS and MARTA, and an artist-in-residence from MnDOT, Clare shared arts and design approaches that play an essential role in recovery efforts for transit systems nationwide, in response to both COVID-19 and long-standing systemic racial injustice. LA Metro is proud to be a leader in these very important topics of conversation taking place on the national level.

Procurement Postings

There are no Procurement Postings for the week ending June 26, 2020.

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

Purple Line Extension Project: K-Rail Work Zone Enclosures

Wilshire Blvd. between San Diego Way and La Jolla Ave. will be reduced to two lanes in each direction. Two K-Rail work zones will be implemented to support ongoing mitigation efforts in the Wilshire Blvd./Crescent Heights Blvd. area starting Monday, May 11, 2020, through Friday, August 14, 2020. Street parking will be restricted. To learn more, click [here](#).

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

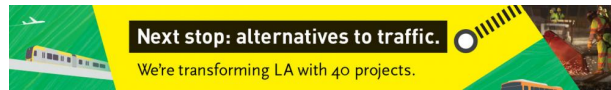
Street restoration at the 1st St and Alameda St intersection is now underway and scheduled to last through August 31, 2020. Plan ahead as lane reductions and road closures will be in place through the summer, as this work will be completed in two stages, each lasting approximately four months.

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](#).

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

"Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time."

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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)