

Monday, August 10, 2020

In this Issue

- **Completion of Designated Bus and Bike Lanes on 5th and 6th Street in DTLA**
 - **Metro's HCD Department Launched the Mentorship Pilot Program**
 - **Transportation Career Academy Program 2020 Zoom Graduation**
 - **Transportation Career Academy Program CEO Talk Show**
 - **Procurement Postings**
 - **Construction Notices**
-

Completion of Designated Bus and Bike Lanes on 5th and 6th Streets in DTLA

In a Facebook Live event earlier today, Metro Board Chair and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti celebrated the successful completion of designated lanes for buses and bikes along 5th and 6th Streets. Although unable to attend in person, I provided a video message for the event, along with members of our Board and other local stakeholders.

Metro, the City of Los Angeles, LADOT and StreetsLA partnered together to implement mobility and safety improvements along 5th and 6th Streets, between Flower Street on the west and Central Avenue on the east. Road improvements and bus lanes will span the entire corridor, while protected bike lanes will run from Spring Street to Central Avenue. The bus lanes will be in operation from 7am to 7pm, Monday-Friday.

For more information, please visit the project website at metro.net/dtlaimprovements or contact Julia Brown at brownju@metro.net.



Metro's HCD Department Launched the Mentorship Pilot Program

Last week, Metro's Human Capital and Development Department launched the Mentorship Pilot Program which connects current leadership program participants with existing Metro leaders. The goal of this program is to create a mentoring relationship between students and members of our existing leadership within Metro. The objectives are designed to foster meaningful interaction and knowledge exchange to support the leadership program participant's professional and personal goals. There has been a great demand for Mentorship for our emerging leaders and use mentoring as a succession planning and knowledge transfer tool. This inaugural program will be evaluated to learn how we can best use mentoring as an addition to our Career Pathways Programs. This Mentorship Program will conclude in December of 2020 and includes monthly virtual sessions for participants.



Transportation Career Academy Program 2020 Zoom Graduation

Friday, August 7, marked the 23rd Transportation Career Academy Program (TCAP) 2020 Graduation for 115 high school students who participated in the 7-week virtual program. The TCAP student interns presented their "capstone" team projects and ten teams competed for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awardees. The project teams presented their innovative approaches and thinking on how to address issues confronting the transportation industry today that included the following topics:

- Safety & Security
- SMART Cities
- Major Capital Engineering

- Metro Signage & Environmental Graphic Design

The TCAP interns selected the topics they wanted to address with many choosing areas that aligned with their career and academic pursuits. We commended the students for coming up with innovative approaches to address the topics from their viewpoint as the next generation of transportation professionals who are considering how they would like LA Metro to “win” customers back and the ways in which Metro can encourage “young people” to ride public transit. Ideas ranged from how to use “bus wrap advertising” to win customers back to Metro after COVID-19; and how to maintain safety and security on buses or trains by designating signage for women to ride transit; to having digital signage at stops and zones which features a digital touch tone board; and how to provide on demand information using a QR Code at all transit stops.

The TCAP interns deserve praise for being able to work as a project team using the ZOOM platform and for doing a remarkable job at using technology and Google chat rooms to produce fantastic final capstone projects. The graduation ceremony also featured Joshua Tomaysu, a returning student intern, and two new student interns (Hunter Lee and Nevaeh Gutiérrez) who gave heartwarming speeches about their TCAP virtual experience. I want to thank Metro Senior Director Marion Jane Colston, and all the LA Metro personnel and senior leadership team members and external partner agency representatives who made this summer a huge success. The students said it best, “This experience was the only human contact I had all summer! Thank you, Go Metro!”



Transportation Career Academy Program's CEO Talk Show

On Thursday, July 30, 2020, I hosted a special event entitled, “TCAP’s CEO Talk Show” which featured members of Metro leadership: Chief Program Management Officer Rick

Clarke, Executive Officer Patrice McElroy, Director Romerica “Mecca” Eller, and Senior Executive Officer Bob Holland. Each of the guest speakers shared their individual career pathway stories and their experiences attending high school and college; along with how they chose transportation as their respective career choice.

I shared how I have been a champion of public transportation and infrastructure, and what I have done to promote workforce development and career pathway program initiatives with programs like TCAP during the COVID-19 pandemic. I want to thank Marion Jane Colston, for her commitment to TCAP and for proposing a “virtual” distance learning program; which enabled Metro to remain engaged with those students who were referred by LA Metro’s external partner agencies (i.e. Faith Leaders, LAUSD, LACOE and non-profit organizations).

Lastly, thanks to the Metro Public Relation’s team who collaborated with staff representatives from LATTC and the Next Generation Workforce Department to ensure we had a first-run special event. Again, thank you for adjusting your busy schedules to meet, greet and respond to the many questions offered in the chat by the 115 TCAP student interns; who were in attendance.



Procurement Postings

CNG SEMI TRUCKS (IFB)

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure three (3) CNG semi-trucks. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, July 31, 2020 through Friday, November 13, 2020.

Metro is seeking a vendor to supply three (3) CNG semi-trucks to support Metro’s operations. The vendor shall furnish, deliver, warrant each vehicle and include all items and accessories not specified but required for the operational use of each vehicle. The vehicles shall be Freightliner M2 112 CNG or approved equal. 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 Aryani L. Guzman, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1387.

KIT – INSTALLATION, EXHAUST L9N CONVERSION (IFB)

Metro releases an Invitation for Bid (IFB) to procure Kits – Installation, Exhaust L9N Conversion. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, August 10, 2020 through Tuesday, November 10, 2020.

Metro is seeking a qualified vendor to supply Kit – Installation, Exhaust L9N Conversion as outlined in the Technical Specifications in support of Metro Bus Operations. Award of a contract will provide a commitment from the supplier to ensure availability as outlined in the Scope of Work on an Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract basis.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Juelene Close, Senior Contract Administrator, at (213) 922-1066.

Construction Notices: Regional Connector, 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.

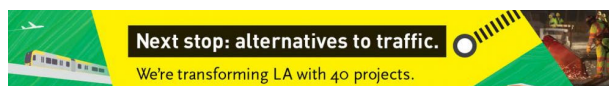
This effort marks the transition into the final phase of construction for the Regional Connector and brings it one step closer to testing and revenue operation. To learn more, click [here](#).

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

"Then the time came when the risk it took to remain tight in a bud
was more painful than the risk it took to blossom."

~ Anais Nin

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