

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

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CTC Recommends \$516.4 Million for LA Metro Projects

On November 16, 2020, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) posted staff recommendations for three SB 1 discretionary grant programs – the Local Partnership Program (LPP), Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) and Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP). This is the second cycle of grants from SB 1, the landmark state transportation package that became law in 2017.

Our agency is recommended to be awarded \$516.4 million across the three programs, leveraging a total project cost of \$1.4 billion. The recommended awards represent 25% of total awards statewide, which is a similar share to what we received in Cycle 1. Looking at all Los Angeles County projects, including projects submitted by the Port of Long Beach, Port of Los Angeles, and City of Long Beach, our region is recommended to be awarded \$559.8 million. This amount reflects 27% of all recommended funding statewide.

The projects recommended to be awarded for Metro projects include:

- NextGen Bus Speed & Reliability Improvements
- Route 210 Soundwall Improvements, Phase IV
- I-105 ExpressLanes
- SR-57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Program
- SR-91 Goods Movement Corridor Projects

Staff from Countywide Planning worked with numerous Metro departments, local agency partners, and Caltrans to successfully complete applications for these programs. We are very grateful to these partners who have contributed to the recommended awards. Once these funds are awarded, Metro staff will continue to work closely with partner agencies to see these projects completed. To learn more about the staff recommendations, please click [here](#). For a summary of recommended awards for only Metro projects, please click [here](#).

November Operations Employees of the Month

Operations Department recognized employees from Transportation and Maintenance at last Thursday's Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Meeting as the department's November 2020 Employees of the Month.

The Transportation Employee of the Month is Mr. Cesar Valle, Transit Operations Supervisor at Operations Central Instruction. He is a hard-working professional who is very passionate about his job. He tends to inspire and help others perform at a greater level in their functions by making his students and peers feel more competent and comfortable in their jobs. He encourages effective communication and innovative ways to embrace collaboration and supports Metro's values for safety, customer service and leadership.

The Maintenance Employee of the Month is Mr. Jaime Lozano, Mechanic A at Division 9 - El Monte. He has worked at Metro for an outstanding 40 years. He is passionate about his job and strives to exceed Metro's mission, to provide world-class transportation for all. He has fostered teamwork and a learning environment throughout his assigned shift. This directly impacts the reliability of buses at Division 9. On behalf of the agency, congratulations to our November Operations Employees of the month and keep up the exemplary work.

A Transit Renaissance in Los Angeles

On November 12, 2020, three Metro projects were presented in a virtual tour sponsored by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Los Angeles Chapter and AIA National Headquarters in Washington DC. Senior Transportation Planning Manager Tony Loui hosted the event, followed by tour leaders Senior Director of Metro Systemwide Design

Adam Light, Scott Johnson, of Johnson Fain, Debra Gerod, of Gruen Associates and Andrew Bryne, of Grimshaw. The Crenshaw LAX Light Rail Transit Stations, Southwestern Yard Division 16 and the Metro Airport Connector were featured in a 90 minute virtual tour, highlighting how Metro will connect Los Angeles International Airport with the rest of its system in the next four years.

Each tour leader shared insights behind these projects designed to improve the legibility of Metro, while providing a welcoming environment for its customers. Design topics addressing capacity, maintainability and project coordination in a complexed mobility corridor were discussed. Tour leaders emphasized raising the bar through design excellence provided by these projects for Metro to keep pace with other world-class systems. This event went live to a nationwide audience, where attendees were given a glimpse of how Metro will deliver integrated mobility solutions in the largest transportation expansion program in the western hemisphere.



Community Conversations: Julia Bogany's Stories, Koreatown Leaders Next

On November 17, Community Relations, in partnership with Metro Arts and Design, presented an enriching Community Conversations virtual program titled *Our Journey to Visibility: Tongva Representation in Public Art*, featuring Julia Bogany, a member of the Tongva tribe. With over 120 people in attendance, Julia shared personal stories of being a Tongva woman, a culture bearer for her community, the Tongva language, and how her collaboration with artists in LA County has increased the Tongva visibility in their homeland of the Los Angeles Basin. Please click [here](#) to watch the recording.

For the last Community Conversations installment of the year, Metro and partners will present Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance (KIWA) on Tuesday, December 3 from 12 – 1pm. Featuring staff and members of KIWA, the talk titled "Advocacy and Empowerment" in Koreatown will invite the audience to follow the evolution of how KIWA's work since the 1990's has met the needs of immigrants, workers, and tenants in Koreatown. Their discussion will explore how KIWA's vision for public transportation is linked with an

economically just future for the neighborhood. Please see below the featured speakers for Dec. 3 Community Conversation include Alexandra Suh (left) and Steve Cho (right). Click [here](#) to register for the event.

Community Conversations is a virtual public program that aligns with Metro's commitment to diversity and inclusion as well as our efforts to listen and learn from LA County communities. To learn more about Community Conversations, contact Michael Cortez at cortezmic@metro.net.



On the Move Riders Program Hosts First Virtual Older Adult Transportation Pop-Up Event

Metro's On the Move Riders Program (OTMRP) hosted its first virtual Older Adult Transportation Pop-Up event on Tuesday, November 17. These events usually take place in-person and are held in each of the five regions throughout LA County. The Transportation Pop-Ups serve to connect older adults with public transportation information and other relevant resources. Since April, OTMRP has worked diligently to stay connected with the older adults they serve through regular online meetings.

The virtual pop-up event provided attendees with information on three helpful resources: bridging the gap between older adults and technology with help from Cyber-Seniors, a host of free online library resources available through the LA County Library, and information regarding shared ride services for persons with disabilities provided by Access Services. I want to thank OTMRP for their continued efforts to engage older adults during this time of isolation and necessary precautions for many older adults in LA County.



Metro Supports Turkey Dinner Distribution to Families in Need

On Saturday, November 21, Metro Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Department (ECSD) assisted Metro Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker and Pasadena Councilmember John J. Kennedy by donating Metro reusable bags to help distribute Thanksgiving turkeys. Mask-wearing volunteers convened at Jackie Robinson Park in Pasadena to stuff hundreds of reusable bags with turkeys and sides for low income residents. Recipients were very thankful for the donations that will allow them to have a proper meal this Thanksgiving Holiday. Thanks again to ECSD, as well as Metro Marketing, for providing support to a great cause.



Procurement Postings

Remote IT Support Services (RFP) - Small Business Prime

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure IT Support. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, November 25, 2020 through Friday, January 29, 2021.

Metro is seeking the services of a contractor to provide support for Office 365, Telecommute VPN Support, Active Directory account modification and creation and share

file/directory permission modifications.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Victor Zepeda, CA at zepedav@metro.net.

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

Regional Connector Transit Project - Historic Broadway Station Street Restoration

Regional Connector Constructors (RCC) will implement an extended closure of 2nd St between Spring St and Broadway for deck removal and street restoration as early as October 30, 2020 through Summer 2021. To view the notice of work click [here](#).

Purple Line Extension Project: K-Rail Work Zone at Wilshire Blvd./San Vicente Blvd.

The K-Rail work zone within the center lanes of the Wilshire Blvd./San Vicente Blvd. intersection is anticipated to remain in place through December 2020. The enclosure will support ongoing tunnel and mitigation work underneath Wilshire Blvd. All left turns within the Wilshire Blvd./San Vicente Blvd. intersection will be closed while the K-Rail is in place. To view the notice of work click [here](#).

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

"Your hardest times often lead to the greatest moments of your life. Keep going. Tough situations build strong people in the end."

~ Roy T. Bennett

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