

Monday, March 22, 2021

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### **American Rescue Plan Act Press Conference with Chair Garcetti**

On Thursday, March 18, I joined Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti and LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds for a press event to celebrate the passage of the American Rescue Plan Act which will provide the Los Angeles/Long Beach/Anaheim region with \$1.6 billion in recovery money for transit service provided during the COVID-19 pandemic. We announced the importance of this funding for the region that will be used to restore transit service throughout LA County and increase ridership as well as provide needed funding for transit projects currently under construction. To read the full press release and view a recording of the press conference, click [here](#).

The transportation section of the measure adopted and signed by President Biden will provide \$30 billion for transit agencies nationwide. The Los Angeles/Long Beach/Anaheim region will receive approximately \$1.6 billion in transit funding. Also Included in the measure is a provision that would provide an additional \$1.4 billion for existing New Starts projects – including Metro's Regional Connector and Westside Purple Line Extension transit projects.

Metro is deeply appreciative for the strong support this COVID-19 relief bill enjoyed among members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation, including U.S. Senators Alex Padilla and Dianne Feinstein.

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### **OffiCON Transportation Conference in Bremen, Germany**

Also on Thursday, March 18, I participated in the virtual opening panel discussion at the OffiCON Transportation Conference hosted by the German public transport initiative *Einfach Einsteigen* out of Bremen, Germany. The title for this event was “Rethinking Public Transport: The future and financing of sustainable mobility after the Covid-19 pandemic.” I spoke on three specific topics related to the event’s theme: The pilot project for fareless transit in Los Angeles, impacts of COVID-19 and bringing back transit riders, and how public transit will be financed in the future.

I informed the audience that we are working to build back the public’s confidence in the safety of riding transit through initiatives such as APTA Health & Safety Commitments Program and also disclosed our belief that the Biden Administration will be a strong funding partner for public transportation in the United States. We closed out the session with a lively Q&A. I want to thank the OffiCON event organizers for inviting LA Metro to join these important conversations on an international level.

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### **Operations March 2021 Employees of the Month**

Operations Department recognized employees from Transportation and Maintenance at last week’s Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Committee Meeting as the department’s March 2021 Employees of the Month.

This month’s Transportation Employee of the Month is Ms. Lateefah Bussey, a Bus Operator at Division 1 - Downtown Los Angeles. She has worked at Metro for an outstanding 20+ years and with this extensive experience she has delivered significant contributions in training new bus operators in the Line Instruction program. She is professional, consistent in her training, highly respected by her peers and management. Ms. Bussey obtains an excellent employee record with no avoidable accidents within the past 19 years. As a line instructor, Ms. Bussey enjoys mentoring new operators, where she ensures operators become comfortable with equipment and division practices. She finds great satisfaction in helping new operators become the best operator possible.

This month’s Maintenance Employee of the Month is Ms. Lilian Meneses who has also been with Metro for over 20 years where she began her career as a Service Attendant and has promoted to Mechanic A Leader at Division 13 - Downtown Los Angeles. As a 3rd shift relief leader, Ms. Meneses is a valuable team member where she accepts all challenges and assignments with enthusiasm. Her extensive experience and consistent accuracy of her work has gained respect from her peers and management. The success and

accomplishments of the Division are in large part due to her dedication and superior work ethic. Congratulations to our Operations employees of the month - your dedication and outstanding work is highly appreciated.



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### **APTA Mobility Conference: Diversity and Inclusion Session**

On Tuesday, March 16, I joined the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Mobility Conference to participate in a panel session titled *Addressing Race and Equity in Transit*. Joining me on this panel was Leslie Richards, General Manager, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), Philadelphia, PA; and Angie Rivera-Malpiede, Board Chair and Director - District C, Regional Transportation District, Denver, CO. We discussed how we are addressing equity and race within our own organizations and what impactful actions we are taking internally as well as in our communities. We discussed how we are creating employee and community engagement, what programs and policies we can adopt and what it means for a transit agency to be fully coherent in their commitment to racial equity.

I spoke about how I believe public transit is a socio-economic enabler; it is key to physical mobility as well as mobility in regard to access to opportunities like jobs, education, appointments and other things that impact individual's outcomes in life. I continued to discuss how we created the Office of Equity & Race who work across the agency to lead us as we develop more equitable processes, projects, policies, and budget, among several other topics. I want to thank APTA for inviting me to participate on this panel and thank you to Flora Castillo, President of Pivot Strategies for moderating this discussion.

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### **What's On Your Mind - Social Media Highlights**

A big thank-you once again to all of our Metro operators getting folks to where they need to be, safely and on-time. I want to also say thank you to our "street teams" handing out packaged masks and hand sanitizer - Metro is committed to the safety of all of our riders.



In reply to @metrolosangeles

**maggie maggie** @ma88pie

March 19, 2021 - 5:46am • View Post

I appreciate my drivers everyday. A big shout out to them that no matter what is going on they get me to work everyday and on time.

2 • Unlike



**Elliequent** @elliequent

March 7, 2021 - 9:38pm • View Post

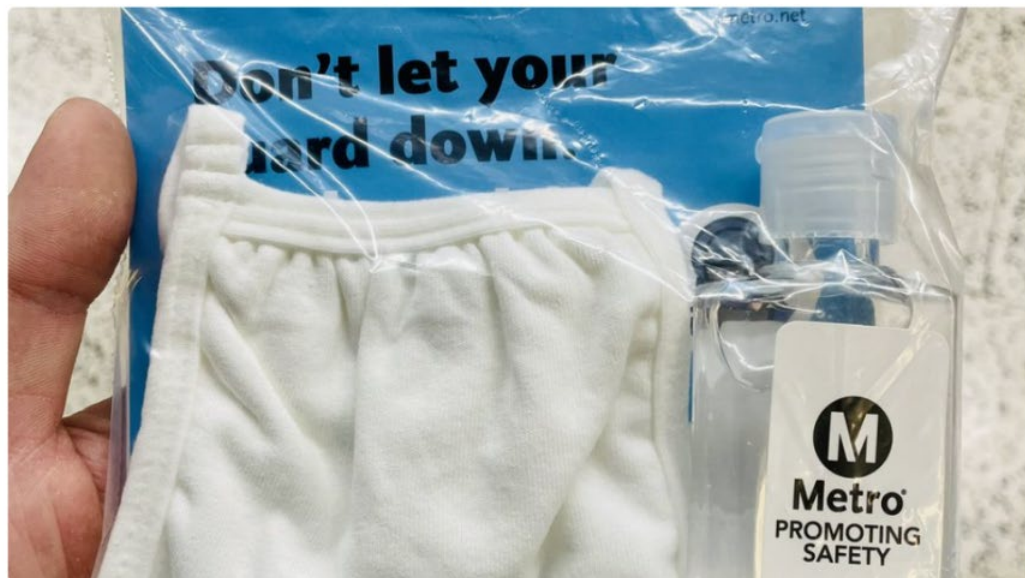
@metrolaalerts Big thanks to the dude is walking the length of the downstairs platform at Wiltshire / Vermont making sure literally every person is getting on the right train ❤️ You need someone doing that every night when service is disrupted!



**Jamie Hendrix** @Jamie\_R\_Hendrix

March 17, 2021 - 8:21am • View Post

I'm actually shocked that @metrolosangeles is handing these out for free!



Hide Media

16 • Unlike

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## Procurement Postings

### Kit - Tubing Exhaust Flex Pipes (IFB)

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure tubing flex pipe kits. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, March 22, 2021 through Wednesday June 30, 2021.

This procurement is for the purchase of tubing flex pipe kits required to repower the New Flyer Xcelsior Cummins 8.9L ISLG 280. These tubing kits are for the exhaust, alternator intake and radiator cooling circuit. Award of a contract will provide a commitment from the supplier to ensure availability as outlined in the Technical Requirements 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 Tanya Allen, Procurement Planning Administrator, at [allentm@metro.net](mailto:allentm@metro.net).

Removal and Disposal of Hazardous Waste and Universal Waste (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to provide professional services to handle, remove, analyze, transport and dispose of hazardous waste and universal waste as outlined in the Scope of Services. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses Only.** SBEs responding to this solicitation must be SBE certified with Metro in the appropriate NAICS codes at the time the bid is submitted. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from March 22, 2021 through May 3, 2021.

The Contractor shall be required to remove and transport Metro's hazardous waste and universal waste by a licensed hazardous waste transporter to a fully permitted Treatment, Storage and Disposal facility.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Aielyn Q. Dumaua, Senior Manager, Contract Administration at (213) 922-7320.

Marketing Research and Branding Services (RFP) - Small Business Prime

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking the services of a contractor to provide marketing research and branding services Metro's Communications Department. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, April 16, 2021 through Friday, June 4, 2021.

The full-service marketing research firm will assist Metro in conducting a variety of market research projects by providing brand tracker survey operations, ad-hoc quant survey operations, qualitative research, advanced statistical analyses, a do-it-yourself survey platform, full-service market research, brand and marketing strategy consulting, and UX research.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Antwaun Boykin, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1056.

Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS) Batteries (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bid (IFB) to procure Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS) Batteries. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, March 5, 2021 through Monday, July 5, 2021.

Metro requires UPS batteries to provide emergency power for lighting and communication functions at multiple passenger stations. The current UPS Batteries have deteriorated due

to aging and environmental conditions; therefore, they must be replaced.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Lorretta Norris at [NorrisL@metro.net](mailto:NorrisL@metro.net).

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

Regional Connector Transit Project - Closure of Temple St. for Alameda Tunnel Box  
Regional Connector Constructors (RCC) implemented an extended closure of Temple St between Alameda St and Garey St for the construction of the Alameda Tunnel Box. The 24/7 closure began on Friday, January 29, 2021 and will continue for approximately six months. To view the notice of work click, [here](#).

Purple Line Extension Project: Utility Relocation on Ashton Ave and Midvale Ave  
Metro contractors will conduct utility relocation for the sanitary sewer lines on Wilshire Blvd., Westwood Blvd., Ashton Ave., and Midvale Ave. in preparation for the Purple (D Line) Extension Section 3 project. Work is scheduled to begin on February 10, 2021, and will take approximately 2 months to complete. To view the notice of work click [here](#).

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

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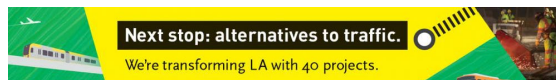
"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

~ James Baldwin

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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)

Sent to:

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