



# CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

**Phillip A. Washington**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Monday, April 19, 2021**

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### **Interview with Tramways and Urban Transport Publication**

On Wednesday, April 14, I was interviewed by reporter Vic Simons with the transportation industry trade publication *Tramways and Urban Transport* based in the United Kingdom. We discussed several general topics, including our Fareless System Initiative, the status of several Metro construction projects, the impacts of COVID-19 and Metro's recovery efforts, the Twenty-Eight by 28 initiative and a few other topics. He also asked about my planned departure from LA Metro, our major achievements and milestones during my tenure and what the future holds for me. I also had an opportunity to inform the reporter of our Board's selection of Stephanie Wiggins to be LA Metro's next Chief Executive Officer – a decision I was very pleased to hear of as I believe Stephanie is the ideal experienced leader to continue the great work we are doing at Metro. The story is expected to be published in the next month.

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## Operations April 2021 Employees of the Month

Operations Department recognized employees from Transportation and Maintenance at this past Thursday's Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Meeting as the department's April 2021 Employees of the Month.

The Transportation Employee of the month was awarded to Michael Lau, Train Operator at Division 20. Mr. Lau became a Line Instructor on December 1, 2017 and has gone above and beyond for his students. He is very patient with a positive attitude and always provides important knowledge to new operators. Mr. Lau is a model employee who is well-liked by his co-workers at Division 20 who are grateful to have him as a Line Instructor. Mr. Lau states that the best part of his job is simply coming to work with all of his fellow operators and supervisors.

The Maintenance Employee of the month was awarded to Derald Wright, Senior Service Attendant at Division 15. Mr. Wright is a dedicated employee who goes above and beyond to address maintenance issues. During the last 12 months when employees were impacted by COVID-19 the division had a significant diminished workforce. Mr. Wright never missed a day of work and often worked overtime to not only perform his dedicated steam cleaning of buses, but also assisted other shifts in the daily sanitization of the bus fleet, fueling, cleaning, and other service needs at the division. Mr. Wright has an outstanding attendance record and motivates everyone with his work ethic and positive attitude.

On behalf of the agency, I would like to congratulate and thank both of these individuals for continuing to be leaders in their respective fields.



## the Central Avenue Angels Walk LA Project

Last Tuesday, April 13, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the Central Avenue Angels Walk LA project. The event was hosted by City of Los Angeles Councilmember Curren D. Price, Jr., 9th District, and was attended by Frank Ching, Deputy Executive Officer, Countywide Planning & Development, as Metro's representative. This project celebrates the rich history of South Los Angeles through a guided walking tour utilizing information stanchions installed at 15 different locations along Central Avenue and through information provided in a guidebook, which is available both as hardcopy and also digitally. Metro provided 80 percent of funding for this project through the 2011 Call for Projects grant program. To learn more, visit [angelswalkla.org/walks/central-avenue/](https://angelswalkla.org/walks/central-avenue/).

Metro's Call for Projects is committed to funding projects that improve mobility of Angelenos and promote active engagement with the surrounding community. Metro has provided funding for many other projects, including several for Angels Walk LA along historic corridors in Los Angeles. The Angels Walk LA projects highlight transportation linkages and spotlight walking as an important active transportation mode while demonstrating the cultural significance of the corridors where they are located. As the County Transportation Authority, it is not only Metro's priority commitment but also its mission to support improving our communities. Certainly, 2020 has not been an easy year, but completion of projects such as this one, symbolizes Metro's ongoing recovery and its ability to bounce back. Through these projects, Metro will continue to celebrate the diverse cultures of the Los Angeles County region and encourage walking as an enjoyable active transportation mobility option.

Photos are from Sentinel News Services and can be viewed, [here](#).



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## Transit App Now Displays COVID-19 Vaccination Locations

Thanks to a collaboration with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Metro's official app, *Transit*, is now displaying locations across L.A. County where residents and workers age 16 and older can get vaccinated against COVID-19. Metro riders open Transit every day to track their bus or train. Now riders will also see yellow pins in the app showing where they can get vaccinated, including at local pharmacies, thanks to regularly-updated information directly from Public Health. Riders can tap on the yellow pins in *Transit* to make a vaccination appointment through the official Public Health website and get transit directions to their vaccination location. For links and more information, visit The Source,

[here](#).

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## Procurement Postings

### Rescue Ride Pilot (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure bulk ride coupon codes (also known as credits) from one or more on-demand ride providers. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, April 9, 2021 through Thursday, June 3, 2021.

Metro is seeking one or more qualified service providers from whom Metro can purchase credits that are available for Metro to distribute through its official App and other channels, and that riders can redeem in real time for a timely ride.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Anush Beglaryan, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 418-3047.

### Joint Development On-Call Design Review Consultant (RFP) - Small Business Prime

Metro will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure professional services for Joint Development On-Call Design Review Consultant. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Wednesday, April 21, 2021 through Monday, July 19, 2021.

Metro is seeking to procure an "on call" contract with a qualified urban and architectural design Consultant. The purpose is to assist with site planning, development program feasibility, and design review for potential joint development projects on Metro-owned properties.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Erica Rodriguez, Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1064.

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

### Regional Connector Transit Project - Bikes Prohibited Westbound 1st Street at Vignes

Due to increasing construction activities for Metro's Regional Connector Transit Project—including excavation of the 1st St Portal and future removal of the Gold Line tracks across 1st St—westbound 1st St is closed at Vignes St to all bicyclists through the duration of construction. A bike detour is in place on westbound 1st St to southbound Vignes St, to 2nd St, for westbound travel. To view the notice of work click, [here](#).

### Purple Line Extension Project: Gale Dr. Closure, Utility Duct Bank Installation

Beginning Monday, April 12, and continuing through Friday, May 7, Gale Dr. north of

Wilshire Blvd. will be fully closed to support the installation of a utility duct bank. This traffic control will be implemented daily, from 6am to 5pm. The north leg crosswalk will be closed to pedestrians while this closure is in place. To view the notice of work click [here](#).

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

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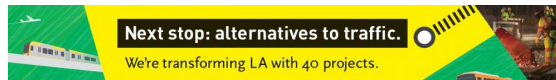
"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little."

~ Edmund Burke

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**Bus & Rail Transit information**

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

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