
CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

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Visiting Troops at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin

I had the honor of traveling to the US Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin,

California to speak to the troops about leadership. I made the trip with Metro's Veteran Liaison Dennis Tucker and Communications Manager Chris Balish, who assisted with support and logistics. The National Training Center is the largest military training installation in the world, and home to the National Training Center Operations Group Wolf Team. I was able to speak to the dedicated soldiers of the Wolf Team about career opportunities for veterans at Metro and in the civilian workforce overall.

After speaking to the troops about how to successfully transition from military to civilian life, I answered questions from senior leaders, interacted with senior non-commissioned officers, and toured the impressive installation at Fort Irwin. The strategic message for key leaders and senior non-commissioned officers was how the transition from military to civilian can become easier if we start building our network, use our transferrable skills, refine our way of speaking, and play to our strengths by utilizing that critical component which all service-members develop in the military... leadership.

Many thanks to the Metro Public Relations Department, Metro Human Capital and Development, and my team in the Office of the CEO in collaboration with Workforce NEXGEN, the Wolf Team at Fort Irwin, Lt. Col. Derek Baird, and everyone who assisted in these efforts to ensure our organization was well represented in full force at this remarkable site visit.



Celebrating Accomplishments with COMTO

Last Thursday, April 29, Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) Southern California Chapter hosted an event to wish me farewell and recognize all of the success and accomplishments we managed at LA Metro during my tenure as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). We had a very casual virtual celebration with Q&A and discussions reflecting on my six years as LA Metro CEO. I was happy to share our Measure M success stories, our

strong improvements to workforce development and career pathways, development of the SEED school for transportation, our progress in equitable mobility throughout LA County and much more. I know the talent we have at Metro will continue to build on these accomplishments and deliver this groundbreaking work following my departure. I want to thank COMTO So Cal President Demauris Terry for this incredible honor and I want to wish the COMTO So Cal organization much success as they work tirelessly on multi-modal advocacy for minority professionals and businesses in the transportation industry.

The 5th Annual Accessibility Awards Event

2021 marks the fifth year that Metro's Office of Civil Rights and Inclusion has recognized Bus Operators for their dedication to serving customers with disabilities.

Traditionally, the Accessibility Awards recognizes Metro's outstanding Bus Operators who have demonstrated excellent securement skills in the Annual Wheelchair Securement Competition. This year, the Covid-19 pandemic prevented Metro from conducting the accessibility fairs and securement challenge in person, compelling the Office of Civil Rights and Inclusion's Accessibility Team to explore other ways to celebrate Bus Operators' excellence in accessibility compliance.

Through careful examination of Mystery Rider Program statistics, customer comments, and nominations from Division leadership, the Office of Civil Rights and Inclusion has chosen the areas of customer service, securement compliance, and customer commendations to spotlight Operators' dedication to serving Metro riders with disabilities during these difficult times.

Along with recognizing individual Operators and Divisions for their tremendous work, this year's virtual awards event feature messages from Metro leadership, acknowledgements from riders with disabilities, and a special thank you from the legendary LA radio DJ Kurt "Big Boy" Alexander! To view the event, scan the QR code below or click on this link:

<https://youtu.be/EHM2MOsAIDQ>.



Crenshaw North Extension Bridging Divides: Scoping Meetings

The Crenshaw Northern Extension project completed its first of three (virtual) scoping meetings as part of the environmental review process taking place April 15 through May 28. Over 165 participants attended the first scoping meeting on Thursday, April 29, from 11:30

a.m. to 1:30 p.m., where they were able to provide input and feedback. Staff presented scoping and project objectives and walked participants through the environmental review process for the three alignments currently being studied. The next two meetings will be held via Zoom on Thursday, May 6 and Saturday, May 8.

View the latest project video, [here](#).

This study is evaluating three potential alignments to extend the Crenshaw/LAX line north from the E (Expo) Line with connections to the D (Purple) and B (Red) Lines and five of our busiest bus lines, with a potential terminus at the Hollywood Bowl. The potential alignments are projecting impressive ridership numbers around 90,000 boardings per day with significant travel time savings to key destinations such as the Hollywood Bowl, LAX, West Hollywood's Rainbow District, Farmers Market/The Grove, West Adams, and Cedars Sinai.

Measure M allocated \$2.24 billion for this project with a groundbreaking of 2041 to be completed in 2047. As part of Metro's early project delivery strategy, the cities of West Hollywood, in coordination with the City of Los Angeles and Metro, are exploring ways to secure additional funding that could accelerate the project. We anticipate updating the public with responses from the scoping meetings in Fall 2021.

For more information, please visit the project page: metro.net/crenshawnorth

Meeting information:

Thursday, May 6,

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82996680178>

Meeting ID: 829 9668 0178

Saturday, May 8,

10 AM – Noon

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84880363069>

Meeting ID: 848 8036 3069

Metro Conversations Hosted Dialogue About Social Sustainability and Next Generation Workforce Programs

In celebration of Earth Month, Metro hosted another virtual Metro Conversations event to highlight how our Next Generation Workforce Programs invest in youth, veterans, educators, and historically underserved communities, while honoring social sustainability: the human element of sustainability. With more than 60 people attending the event, Metro staff and stakeholder partners discussed their experiences working for or with Metro and their reflections on the meaning of sustainability.

During the event, Metro Chief Sustainability Officer Cris B. Liban provided a keynote

address and Metro Community Relations Manager Julia Brown moderated a panel discussion featuring Maria G. Meleandez, Metro's Deputy Executive Officer with Human Resources, Tiyasha Watts, a graduate of Metro's TCAP Program, Paul Yoon, a US Army veteran, California Army National Guard and Metro Admin Analyst, and Ms. Rubi, Principal of Metropolitan High School, a partner with Metro's Expose, Educate, and Employ (E3) Program.

Attendees impressed by the breadth of workforce programs asked the panelists how they got involved with their respective programs at Metro, and wondered how Metro can measure social sustainability. Social sustainability is one of the three pillars of sustainability and is an integral part of Metro's sustainability Strategic Plan, *Moving Beyond Sustainability*, which guides the agency's decision-making and operations, while also prioritizing community resilience, equity, and workforce development. You can learn more about Metro's *Moving Beyond Sustainability* plan [here](#) and the Next Generation Workforce Programs [here](#). To watch a recording of the conversation, please click [here](#).

Metro Conversations is a web series led by the Community Relations Department. Metro staff and our partners discuss stories about Metro's work that is little-known, but enhances the quality of life in LA County. The program aligns with Metro's efforts to listen and learn from LA County communities. To learn more about Metro Conversations, contact the team at metrospeaks@metro.net.



Procurement Postings

Vehicle Engineering & Acquisition Consultant Support Services Bench (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposal to procure professional services in support of a Vehicle Engineering and Acquisition Consultant Services Bench for bus acquisitions. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, May 3, 2021 through Monday, August 9, 2021.

Metro is seeking a qualified Bench of contractors to provide consultant services to support vehicle engineering and acquisition, program management and technical support services for bus acquisitions.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Claudia Carrillo at (213) 922-1083.

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

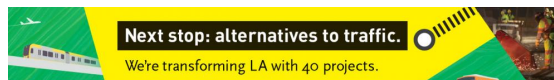
Beginning Monday, April 12, and continuing through Friday, May 7, Gale Dr. north of Wilshire Blvd. will be fully closed to support the installation of a utility duct bank. This traffic control will be implemented daily, from 6am to 5pm. The north leg crosswalk will be closed to pedestrians while this closure is in place. To view the notice of work click [here](#).

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

"Be not afraid of growing slowly, be afraid only of standing still."

~ Chinese Proverb

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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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