



Monday, May 24, 2021

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Farewell and Godspeed to the Metro Family

This will be my last Every Voice Counts communication to the Metro Family. It has been an incredible six years at Los Angeles Metro and you all have done remarkable work increasing access to mobility, building out a balanced transportation system, securing a no-sunset sales tax to fund our robust transportation program, laying the foundation for equity and opportunity for all people and so much more. We made incredible progress building out the largest infrastructure program in North America and will carry on for generations. My departure will not slow down this progress; it will not affect the continuity or our commitment to delivering world-class transportation.

LA Metro staff is some of the best in the industry and I am certain they will not take their eye off the ball. I am confident the agency is in great hands with incoming CEO Stephanie Wiggins. The LA Metro brand is strong. We've produced six CEOs across the country and continue to promote women and people of color across all departments and positions. I want to thank the Metro Board of Directors for their collaboration and strong support of our agency vision and goals these past six years. And I certainly want to thank you - for bringing this vision to reality and reaching these goals and setting new ones. I look forward to cheering you on and seeing LA Metro ribbon cuttings and groundbreakings in the future – from wherever I may end up across the country. Thank you, farewell, and Godspeed.

Groundbreaking for Construction on Purple Line Extension Section 3

This morning, we held a groundbreaking for the third and final section of the Purple Line Extension Project: the two-and-a-half-mile segment between Century City, UCLA and Westwood/VA Hospital. The ceremony was staged at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs property. I joined Metro Chair and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, FTA Deputy Administrator Nuria Fernandez, Metro Board Member and Los Angeles Councilmember Mike Bonin, Metro Board Member and Whittier Councilmember Fernando Dutra, West LA VA Director Steve Braverman, and Vice Chancellor of UCLA Michael Beck to speak at the event to mark this important early project milestone. Special thanks to U.S. Representative Karen Bass who sent virtual greetings to the ceremony and thanks to our local, state, and federal partners who sent representatives to attend. We are very excited to bring a fast and efficient transportation option to our Veterans needing access to the VA property.

Metro is currently 19 percent complete constructing Section 3 of the project. To date, most construction activities have centered on advance utility relocation work and final design and engineering work. Metro has inserted one tunnel boring machine (TBM) into the ground on the VA property site, with the second planned to be inserted within the next couple of months. Metro's contractor will soon begin piling operations to build a station box perimeter prior to station excavation work. Section 3 funding includes a \$1.3 billion federal grant that will be delivered through a multi-year Full Funding Grant Agreement that is governed by the FTA's Capital Investment Grant program, popularly referred to as New Starts.

The live streamed event was recorded and can be viewed on Metro's Facebook page, [here](#).

Tribute Poster Honors Essential Workers and Those We Have Lost

I made my way out to several divisions last week to hand deliver a new tribute poster dedicated to all essential workers that has debuted across the Metro system. The workers include our employees—who have kept LA County moving—and our riders, many of whom are also essential workers. The poster also honors all those we have lost during the COVID-19 pandemic. The tribute features works from two Metro riders: artist Manuel Lopez and poet Joseph Rios.

Written during the early days of the pandemic, the tribute prominently features an excerpt from Rios's poem *An Ode to the Essential* and reflects the poet's then-new experience of his socially distanced interaction with his Metro Bus operator.

Read more about the project and the artists on [The Source](#).



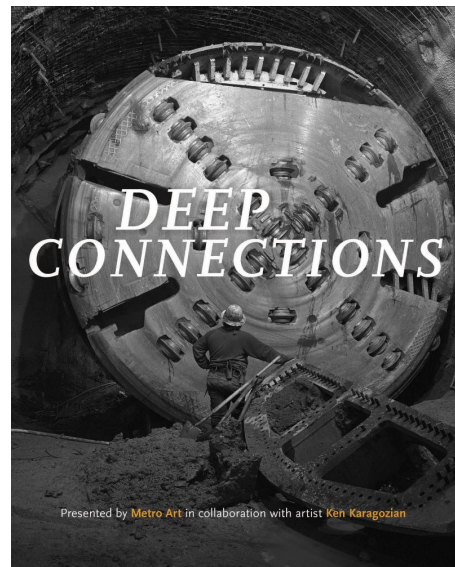
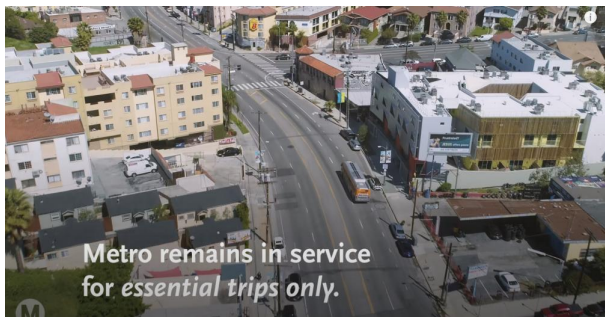
Metro Receives First Place APTA AdWheel Awards

I am proud to announce that the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) will be honoring Metro Communications with two First Place awards at their annual Marketing and Communications Meeting this Fall:

Metro Art's [Exhibition](#) and [Catalog](#) "Deep Connections" won for Print Media: Best Marketing and Communications Educational Initiative

["LA Metro is still in service for those who serve us"](#) won for Electronic Media: Best Marketing and Communications on COVID-19

Congratulations to the Metro Arts & Design, Marketing and Public Relations teams that developed and produced these first place award-winning initiatives.



Metro Launches Adopt-A-Bike Program in Partnership with Community-Based Organization's

Last Friday, Metro launched the Adopt-a-Bike Program and distributed for free more than 100 previously owned bicycles. Senior Executive Officer, Holly Rockwell and Deputy Executive Officer, Frank Ching from Countywide Planning welcomed the recipients to the Union Station Bike Hub where the event was held. The bicycles that were distributed represent some of the hundreds of bikes abandoned on a monthly basis on the bus and rail system and at Metro facilities. Through the Adopt-a-Bike Program, these bicycles will now be offered to Los Angeles County residents living in equity focused communities in an effort to improve their mobility options and access to jobs, recreation, and other opportunities. The Adopt-a-Bike Program brings equity value directly to people's hands.

To reach recipients, Metro is partnering with six community-based organizations (CBO's) that include Active SGV, Walk n' Rollers, People for Mobility Justice, Healthy Active Streets, Willowbrook Inclusion Network (WIN), and Instituto de Avance Latino a Community Development Corporation (IDEAL CDC). These CBOs will also assist in preparing the bicycles for distribution by conducting safety checks and repairs. Additional Adopt-a-Bike giveaway events will be held in the coming months. For more information, click [here](#) for the article on The Source.

On The Move Riders Program Host LA County's Department of Mental Health

On Thursday, May 20, Metro's On the Move Riders Program (OTMRP) hosted a countywide discussion with LA County's Department of Mental Health titled "Re-entry Anxiety and Emotional Intelligence." This was one of five virtual events curated in honor of National Older Americans Month in May. The discussion educated older adults on how to tackle anxious thoughts as it pertains to life post COVID-19 and strategies on improving one's emotional health to improve quality of life. OTMRP continues its virtual programming for older adults to educate and empower them to safely utilize public transit for necessity and

recreation. The culmination of Older Americans Month will be Wednesday, May 26 at the virtual [5th Annual Older Adult Transportation Expo](#).

Procurement Postings

Special Event Audio/Visual Services & Equipment Rental (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure Special Event Audio/Visual Services & Equipment Rental Services. **This solicitation is open to Metro Certified Small Businesses only.** The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, May 21, 2021 through Monday, June 21, 2021.

The Metro Public Relations Department is seeking a contractor to provide special event audio-visual services and rental equipment for upcoming Metro events.

The selected contractor must have the capability to support multiple special events with possible events going on simultaneously and up to 40 events or more, a year. Events can range in scale between high level press conferences, outdoor concerts, community festivals, formal and invitation-only affairs, industry conferences, rail line openings, etc.

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.

Special Event Services & Equipment Rental (IFB)

Metro will release an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to procure Special Event Services & Equipment Rental. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, May 21, 2021 through Monday, June 21, 2021.

The Metro Public Relations department is seeking a contractor to provide special event services and equipment for upcoming Metro events.

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.

Elevator Attendant Services (IFB) - Small Business Prime

Metro released an Invitation for Bid (IFB) to seek a qualified contractor to provide elevator attendant services as part of a pilot program at two Metro B Line (Red) rail stations: Civic Center and Pershing Square Stations. The procurement blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, May 20, 2021 through Friday, September 3, 2021.

Interested bidders must demonstrate a minimum of three (3) years' experience in performing elevator attendant services, frontline customer service with attendants or comparable customer service experience for a minimum of three (3) public or private entity clients.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Rommel Hilario, Principal Contract Administrator, (213) 922-4654.

Labor Compliance Monitoring Services Bench (RFIQ)

Metro will release a Request for Information and Qualifications (RFIQ) to establish a Labor Compliance Monitoring Services Bench. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Thursday, May 27, 2021 through Friday, November 5, 2021.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) seeks to establish a bench of qualified firms to provide labor compliance program support services to monitor construction projects in accordance with State of California and Federal Labor Code.

Tasks include evaluating, monitoring, and enforcing prevailing wage requirements on Metro's construction projects. Bench consultants shall maintain all required labor compliance records, provide assistance to field personnel and contractors, conduct field interviews, conduct investigations, prepare appropriate notices following the conclusion of any investigation and perform any and all other duties necessary to carry out the function of the compliance activities in accordance with the laws, regulations and provisions which govern public works contracts in California.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Greg Baker, Principal Contract Administrator at (213) 922-7577.

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](#).

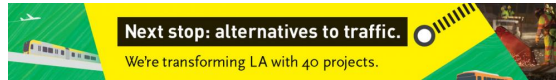
Purple Line Extension Project: SCE Coordination Work near VA Hospital Campus

Metro contractors will continue utility work in coordination with So Cal Edison on the Wilshire Blvd – Bonsall Ave ramps at the VA Hospital Campus. Work will be done from June 1 to 4, 2021. The ramp closures will be in effect from 9am to 3:30pm, Monday through Friday. Required equipment includes work trucks, compressors, and blowers. Utility services will be maintained. To view the notice of work click [here](#).

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

"Failure is not an option."

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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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