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By DAVE SOTERO

(March 29, 2006) Metro and a host of major city and county agencies will host the 13th Annual Greater Los Angeles Vendor Fair, April 12, at the LA Convention Center.



This theme of this year's Fair is "Business Opportunities Lead to Great Enterprises." The Fair, scheduled from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. in West Hall B, will focus on the agencies' mission to make significant contributions to the Southern California economy.

A major feature of the Fair will be Metro's "mega-booth" with information provided by Procurement and Material Management, Management Audit's Pre-Qualifications unit, Diversity & Economic Opportunity, Ethics, Ride Share, Risk Management and other departments.

Turning Point Magazine publisher Pat Means, above,

is keynote speaker.

Metro employees will be admitted free to the exhibit floor, to all workshops and to the "Meet the Buyers Breakfast," which will be held on

the exhibit floor from 7:30 until 8:30 a.m. A luncheon with keynote speaker Pat Means, publisher of Turning Point Magazine, will cost \$65.

Business people attending the Vendor Fair will find the information they need to compete for millions of dollars in agency contracts. The day-long event will provide contract opportunities, introductions to agency procurement personnel and networking opportunities.

Vendor trade show

The Fair also will include a trade show with a variety of vendors that provide specialized products and services for businesses working with public agencies.

"As one of the region's largest public agencies, Metro is well-suited to helping businesses compete for and obtain agency contracts," said Lonnie Mitchell, executive officer of Metro's Procurement & Material Management Department. "We have special programs and services that can assist companies through every step of the process, from registering to do business with us to competing for, receiving and fulfilling agency contracts."

Employees interested in volunteering to help prepare for the Vendor Fair or to assist during the event should contact Kelly Irving at 922-2536 or Julie Ellis at 922-1043. For more information about the Greater Los Angeles Vendor Fair or to obtain a schedule of workshops, visit www.lavendorfair.com.

