

[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

► [Safety](#)

► [Pressroom](#) (web)

► [Ask the CEO](#)

► [CEO Forum](#)

► [Employee Recognition](#)

► [Employee Activities](#)

► [Metro Projects](#)

► [Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)

► [Archives](#)

► [Events Calendar](#)

► [Research Center/
Library](#)

► [Metro Classifieds](#)

► [Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

► [30/10 Initiative](#)

► [Policies](#)

► [Training](#)

► [Help Desk](#)

► [Intranet Policy](#)

Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357

[Contact myMetro.net](#)

Metro's Vendor Fair booth at the Los Angeles Convention Center featured a new articulated bus, painted in Metro Local colors. Kwesi Annan, project engineer, Vehicle Technology, gave tours to Vendor Fair attendees who stepped aboard.



Photos by Ned Racine

14th Annual Greater Los Angeles Vendor Fair Goes Green

- Green Growth theme helps draw 2,100 small business owners to annual public agency vendor outreach event

BY DAVE SOTERO

(April 12, 2007) The 14th Annual Greater Los Angeles Vendor Fair held yesterday at the Los Angeles Convention Center drew 2,100 attendees interested in learning how to tap billions of dollars of local contract opportunities in Los Angeles County.

This year's fair, hosted by five city and county agencies and chaired by Metro, was themed "Green Growth Equals Contracts, Environment and Opportunities" and promoted sustainable development. A "Green Pavilion" on the exhibit floor showcased green vendor products and services.

Los Angeles City Council members Jan Perry and Herb Wesson join Metro's Kellie Irving, Vendor Fair chair; Acting Chief Operating Officer Carolyn Flowers and



other agency representatives in cutting a ribbon to symbolize the opening of the Vendor Fair.

Metro's Executive Officer of Operations, Carolyn Flowers, participated in the morning's official ribbon cutting ceremony, saying Metro's close partnership with the small business community is an important way that the agency ensures fairness in the contracting process, ensuring that as many businesses as possible can take advantage of the opportunities Metro provides.

L.A. City Councilmember Herb Wessen declared that, all together, public agency contract opportunities totaled \$25 billion.

This year's Chair was Metro's Kellie Irving, assisted by Julie Ellis and Nicole Starks-Murray. All were instrumental in helping to organize the large-scale event with the assistance of many Metro departments, including Procurement and Material Management, Commute Services, Diversity and Economic Opportunity, ITS, Transportation Business Advisory Council, Facilities Maintenance, Ethics, Management Audit and General Services.



Joe Hernandez, Diversity and Economic Opportunity manager, joins Robin D. Turner in the Metro booth at the Vendor Fair. Turner considers herself a success story who benefited from the services and support available to small businesses from Metro's Department of Diversity & Economic Opportunity.

By all accounts, workshops were well attended, and the exhibit floor, which featured a 60-foot Metro Liner demonstration bus, was abuzz with activity.

Metro also debuted its online vendor registration process, which enabled new businesses to immediately become certified with the agency to compete for future contracts.



Vaudo questions Metro's Suzanne Berger and Juelene Close, buyers, on Metro Procurement issues during Wednesday's 14th Annual Greater Los Angeles Vendor Fair.