



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

News

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Paul Gonzales/Joni Goheen
Metro Media Relations
213.922.2702/213.922.2700
metro.net/press/pressroom
mediarelations@metro.net
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METRO BOARD APPROVES SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS ON TRANSIT SYSTEM

As part of its strategy on enhancing security and rider experience on the transit system, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors today approved a contract to nearly double the amount of contract security officers to deter crime and disorder on the bus and rail system.

The contract award of nearly \$82 million to RMI International, Inc. will be effective October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.

Metro's security staffing plan is multi-layered and comprised of Metro security officers, private sector security officers and state certified law enforcement professionals.

"In the last 26 years, Metro has added 105 miles of rail, more than 100 rail stations and numerous transit centers," said Metro Board Chair John Fasana. "This action to enhance security is a critical step in ensuring our passengers have a safe and secure experience."

"Safety and security of our customers and our employees is Metro's number one priority," said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. "This is part of our overall strategic plan to maximize our visibility and resources across our system."

Under the proposal approved today, additional staff will be assigned to key hubs, rail stations and parking facilities in addition to safeguarding critical infrastructure. The high-visibility presence augments video surveillance and, in some cases, will patrol 24/7.

"Our security officers serve as the eyes and ears for law enforcement, patrol key areas, and notify law enforcement when required," said Metro Chief Systems, Security and Law Enforcement Officer Alex Wiggins. "Security officers complement the vital role of law enforcement, but do not replace it and this action follows through with the CEO's directive to enhance security through new enforcement presence system wide."

Wiggins reported that additional security is necessary to support ridership growth, improve rider retention, improve perception of safety by riders and employees, and provide additional resources to first responders.

About Metro

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is unique among the nation's transportation agencies. Created in 1993, Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that transports about 1.4 million passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines. The agency also oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related building projects and leads transportation planning and programming for Los Angeles County. Through its oversight of one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is changing the urban landscape of one of the country's largest, most populous counties.

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