

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

News

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Metro Celebrates Bike Week / Infrastructure Week May 15-19 with Groundbreaking for New Bike Hub at Los Angeles Union Station



In commemoration of Bike Week and Infrastructure Week that run from May 15 to 19, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) today broke ground on a new \$2.47-million Bike Hub that will provide secure, 24/7 bicycle parking at Los Angeles Union Station.

The new facility will be a 3,000-square-foot

standalone building located outside the station's north breezeway. The Bike Hub will have parking space for nearly 200 bicycles for commuters to safely store their bicycles at L.A. County's largest transit hub.

Scheduled to open this fall, the Union Station Metro Bike Hub will provide secured entry, closed-circuit TV surveillance and will be staffed by Metro's vendor during peak hours. The hub will include a bike shop that can perform repairs and will sell bike-related items. Bicycle safety classes and clinics will also be offered at the facility.

Bike hubs provide an attractive option for commuters who would rather bike to a transit station than drive. Bike commuters can use hubs to safely park their bikes and avoid having to take their bikes on trains. Union Station's Bike Hub will be an ideal "last mile" solution for people who work in downtown, which is the largest employment center in the county.

"Secure bicycle parking at Union Station will be an invaluable amenity that will greatly improve the commuting experience of our customers who bike to stations," said John Fasana, Duarte Mayor Pro-Tem and Metro Board Chair. "Bicyclists will soon have the flexibility to leave their bikes in our safe and secure hub before or after riding Metro, Metrolink, Amtrak or other municipal transit services that serve Union Station."

Metro is developing a strategic plan to map out future Metro Bike Hubs and other bike parking facilities that best suit the needs of L.A. County residents. The agency has already opened its first bike hub at El Monte Transit Center, and another Metro Bike Hub will open near the Hollywood/Vine Metro Red Line Station this Friday, May 19. Additional bike hubs are planned in North Hollywood and Culver City.

"Bike hubs represent Metro's latest effort to create a balanced transportation system in L.A.

County and give people new ways to connect with the Metro System," said Phillip A. Washington, Metro CEO. "These new hubs will help solve our customers' most stubborn first mile/last mile transportation challenges. Commuters will increasingly have greater opportunities to combine bicycle and transit trips as we expand the network of Metro Bike Hubs throughout our region."

During Bike Week, Metro and its agency partners will be promoting numerous activities throughout L.A. County that are designed to introduce Angelenos to the health, environmental and commuting benefits of bicycling. Metro will provide free rides on the Metro Bus and Rail System for people who bring either a bike or bike helmet on the system this Thursday, May 18. For more information about these and other Bike Month events hosted by groups across the county, visit Metro's Bike Month website at <u>https://www.metro.net/riding/bike-month/</u>.

"Bike week is an excellent reminder that Metro's mission is to create a functional, convenient and accessible transportation system for everyone who uses our streets and needs to get around Los Angeles," said Councilmember Mike Bonin. "This new bike hub at Union Station will make it easier for people to use their bikes to get to and from their train or bus, and I am excited to kick off bike week by celebrating this awesome addition to the bike infrastructure network in LA."

Metro's Bike Hub groundbreaking also coincides with National Infrastructure Week, which promotes the message it is #TimetoBuild projects necessary to make the country financially competitive, prosperous and safe.

Metro has numerous transit infrastructure projects now in the works that will help people avoid traffic and create thousands of local jobs for L.A. area residents. Other major infrastructure projects that are part of the region's ongoing infrastructure revolution include the Airport Metro Connector, the Crenshaw/LAX Line, the Regional Connector, the Purple Line Extension and the Patsaouras Plaza Busway Station Project, among others. For additional information about these infrastructure projects, visit <u>www.metro.net</u>.

"While MTA's new bike hub is a small bicycle infrastructure project in comparison to the agency's other major projects, it demonstrates our region's emerging needs to invest adequately in all types of infrastructure improvements that will help keep everyone moving," said Ara Najarian, MTA Board Member and Glendale City Council Member. "MTA is now engaged in a robust infrastructure revolution thanks to our local Measure M sales tax, but our efforts can only be bolstered by additional federal investments in infrastructure that will help generate even more jobs and economic prosperity for our county."

Photo Credit: L.A. Metro

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 1.3 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.

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