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News

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Metro, LADOT Partner to Expand Metro's Bike Share Program to New Central Los **Angeles Communities**



The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), in partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), has begun expansion of its Metro Bike Share network into Central Los Angeles, with more than 40 new stations in MacArthur Park, Rampart Village, Koreatown, Echo Park, Silver Lake and surrounding

communities.

The expansion will greatly augment the existing downtown L.A. area bike share stations, creating a more comprehensive and robust network for Angelenos seeking to complete their first and last mile journeys on two wheels.

New Bike Share stations are now available at Union Avenue and Olympic Boulevard, Westlake Avenue and 3rd Street, 8th Street and Vermont Avenue and Shatto Place and Wilshire Boulevard. Stations have also been added at the Westlake/MacArthur Park Red/Purple Line Station, 7th Street and Park View Street, 4th Street and Vermont Avenue, 7th Street and Berendo Street and Union Avenue and 7th Street. Additional stations will be installed in Koreatown, Echo Park, Silver Lake areas over the next few months and will be announced regularly on Metro Bike Share Program's social media channels.

All new stations will have the classic Metro Bikes that are docked to stations.

"Our continued improvement and expansion of Metro Bikes makes Metro one of the leading and most innovative bike share programs in the nation," said L.A. County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair Sheila Kuehl. "This exciting program is giving even more Angelenos a cost-effective, easy and healthy way to travel around our county by bicycle."

Bike sharing is an ideal transportation option for local destinations that may be too far to walk and too short or inconvenient to drive.

"We are reimagining public transportation in Los Angeles — and scaling up bike share is a big part of solving our first/last mile problem, by giving transit users a convenient way to get from the bus stop to their front door," said L.A. Mayor and Metro Board Second Vice Chair Eric Garcetti, "This expansion will give Angelenos and visitors alike an easy, affordable way to skip traffic and experience some of our city's most incredible sights."

Metro has recently announced other first/last mile services, including new partnerships with Via and Getaround for transit riders looking for new ways to connect by car with Metro transit stations to complete their first/last mile trips.

"Metro is focused on improving our customers' experience and giving them more practical mobility solutions," said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. "Our bike share program is just one of the many ways we're improving our services to better meet Metro riders' daily transportation needs."

The selection of station locations was based on extensive community feedback. Metro and LADOT worked with various neighborhood organizations and used crowdsourcing to identify where community members would most like bike share stations located. Flyers were posted at each potential station location to encourage comments from local community members.

The Metro Bike program is administered by Metro in partnership with local agencies, including LADOT and the Port of Los Angeles. It is operated by Bicycle Transit Systems, Inc.

"Metro bikeshare expansion connects more neighborhoods to reliable, fun ways to see more and do more in our city," said Seleta Reynolds, General Manager for LADOT. "Well-designed stations anchored to transit hubs are the foundation of true choice and a commonsense solution to help ease congestion. Metro bikeshare has an exemplary safety record, like docked bikeshare around the world. We are proud of our investment in safe, equitable choices for everyone in Los Angeles."

For regular updates on new station installations, follow @bikemetro on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. For additional information on new services, options and incentives, visit Metro Bike share website at <u>www.metro.net/bikeshare</u>.

About Metro

Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that is really three companies in one: a major operator that transports about 1.4 million boarding passengers on an average weekday on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines, a major construction agency that oversees many bus, rail, highway and other mobility related building projects, and the lead transportation planning and programming agency for Los Angeles County. Overseeing one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is changing the urban landscape of the Los Angeles region. Dozens of transit, highway and other mobility projects largely funded by Measure R are under construction or in the planning stages. These include five new rail lines, enhanced bus operations, and numerous highway and local projects.

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