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Metro and LADOT to Launch Westside Expansion of Metro Bike Share Program and Introduce New Smart Bikes at CicLAvia Open Streets Event on Sunday, March 3

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) have announced that the popular Metro Bike Share Program will officially expand to West Los Angeles in time for CicLAvia – Culver City Meets Mar Vista + Palms presented by Metro this Sunday, March 3.

More than 60 new stations will be available in Palms, Mar Vista, Playa Del Rey, Playa Vista and surrounding communities. Several stations will be available for use as part of CicLAvia with many more to come in the following weeks. The new bike share stations will provide convenient access to local destinations including Venice Boardwalk, Abbot Kinney Boulevard, the Rose District, Downtown Mar Vista, Motor Avenue in Palms, the Museum of Jurassic Technology and the Expo Line. For a map of available stations and bicycles, visit metro.net/bikeshare.

"By expanding Metro's Bike Share Program in West L.A. we are giving County residents the opportunity to get out of their cars and bike to the beach, Miracle Mile museums, and hiking trails," said L.A. County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair Sheila Kuehl. "The Metro Bike share program helps you get from any Metro station to your destination."

Metro will also introduce its new Smart Metro Bikes at all Westside locations. Smart Metro Bikes feature technology that enables bikes to be securely locked either at a Bike Share station or, for a small convenience fee, at a public bike rack away from a Bike Share station, giving riders door-to-door access within Metro Bike Share's service area. The new bikes have eight gears, a front basket, a rear pannier rack for carrying more personal items and both front and rear lights for night-time visibility.

Smart Metro Bikes will also give TAP card holders enrolled in Metro Bike Share an integrated user experience, making unlocking a bike as simple as tapping the screen on the bike with their TAP

cards. TAP users can register their TAP cards and enroll in the program at https://taptogo.net/metrobikeshare.

Riders who do not currently have a registered TAP Card can purchase a Pay-Per-Ride pass connected to a User ID and PIN or pre-loaded onto a TAP card at any Smart Bike Kiosk on the Westside. This pass will be valid for 30 days and will give riders access to Smart Metro Bikes for \$1.75 for each half hour of riding. TAP cards purchased at a Smart Bike Kiosk are compatible with Metro Bike Share stations in Downtown LA and Port of Los Angeles.

As part of the Westside bike share launch, Metro will be switching out its classic Metro Bikes with its new Smart Metro bikes in Venice.

"With bike share expanding to the Westside, we are yet again improving our customers' experience and giving them a greater variety of transportation solutions," said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington.

The selection of station locations was based on extensive community feedback. The program is administered by Metro in partnership with local agencies, including LADOT and the Port of Los Angeles. Metro Bike Share is operated by a contractor, Bicycle Transit Systems, Inc.

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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