



Monday, August 6, 2018

#### In this Issue

- [The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials \(COMTO\) 47th Annual Conference “Multimodal Transportation: Many Paths, One Goal”](#)
- [Transportation Career Academy Program Class of 2018](#)
- [Link US Project at Financial Innovations Lab](#)
- [Three Public Scoping Meetings Held for the West Santa Ana Branch Project](#)
- [Next Stop: Retirement](#)
- [Procurement Postings](#)
- [Construction Notices](#)

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#### **The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) 47th Annual Conference “Multimodal Transportation: Many Paths, One Goal”**

Los Angeles Metro participated in the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials' (COMTO) 47th annual conference held in Baltimore, Maryland, from July 29 to August 1. The theme of the conference was “Multimodal Transportation: Many Paths, One Goal” with an emphasis on supporting robust investments in infrastructure to improve transportation systems across the country.

Metro's participants included: Diane Frazier, Service Operations Superintendent and the Treasurer for COMTO's Los Angeles Chapter; Bernard Jackson, Sr. Executive Officer, Rail Operations; Errol Taylor, Sr. Executive Officer, Rail Maintenance and Engineering; Derek Hull, Principal Real Estate Officer, and Patrice McElroy, Executive Officer, Talent Management.

Derek and Patrice both gave presentations. Derek presented on “Coordinating Adjacent Development Review Near Transit Corridors - LA Metro's Approach to Streamlined Development Review Process.” Patrice presented on “Management/Leadership Development for Tomorrow's Leaders” with emphasis on Metro's Career Pathway Program.

The four-day conference welcomed national industry leaders from all modes of transportation and featured learning, training and networking. The LA Metro team shared information about our agency and learned about activities at other transportation agencies around the United States. I want to thank our Metro delegation for representing our agency with excellence.



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### **Transportation Career Academy Program Class of 2018**

Here at Metro we are proud of the extensive outreach and work we are doing to introduce local youth to excellent careers in transportation. Every summer we open up our doors to the Transportation Career Academy Program (or T-CAP) for high school students to spend about 8 weeks interning with Metro in all departments including operating divisions outside of Gateway headquarters. The students represent high schools from all corners of Los Angeles County – from Reseda and Pasadena, through Los Angeles and down to Hawaiian Gardens and Cerritos.

There were 165 interns in this summer's program – quite an impressive growth from the start of the program in 1997 when Metro had about 30 interns throughout the school year. The interns were very busy this year learning about everything from Transit Oriented Development and designing smart cities, to project tours, division tours, and learning about communication skills through Metro's Toastmaster's presentation. They also attended the Space X 2018 Hyper Loop Pod competition. To close out the program, students presented their team projects to some of our Senior Leadership Team including Chief Planning Officer Therese McMillan who was the lead in reviewing and providing helpful tips to these young transportation professionals.

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### **Link US at Financial Innovations Lab**

Last week, I delivered opening remarks at the roundtable discussion, "Financial Innovations Lab: Investing in Los Angeles' Urban Resiliency" hosted by Milken Institute in collaboration with Metro in Downtown Los Angeles. The purpose was to specifically discuss project acceleration and attracting the private sector to invest in public infrastructure projects. The focus for the group was to look at possible financial solutions to closing the \$1.5 billion funding gap for the Link Union Station Project. There was a great discussion and innovative ideas put out there by both the private and public sector guests involved in this meeting. I want to thank all of the Metro staff involved in this event as well as representatives from Los Angeles Mayor and Metro 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Eric Garcetti's Office for helping to lead this discussion.

LA Metro is evaluating the Link Union Station (Link US) project to address the forecasted increase in ridership, expand regional rail connectivity, and create potential opportunities for transit-oriented development. The project plans to transform the Los Angeles Union Station into a modern transit and mobility hub offering an improved passenger experience to meet the region's long-term transportation needs. A few key components include, reconfiguring the station entry tracks and station arrival and boarding area; a new expanded concourse with retail, food services, passenger waiting areas and other transit-serving amenities and new run-through tracks over the US-101 freeway to provide one-seat rides to major destinations in Southern California.

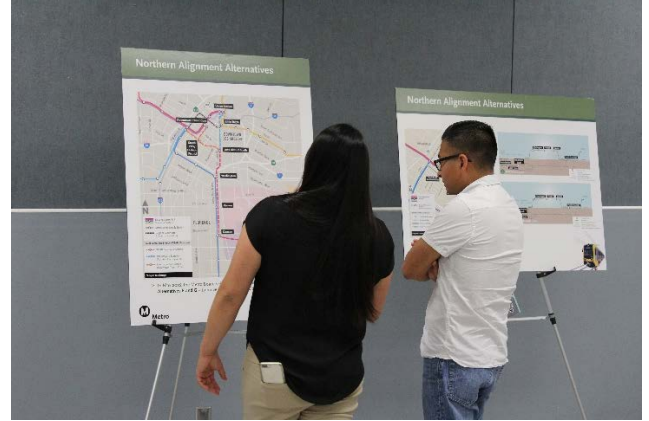
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### **Three Public Scoping Meetings Held for the West Santa Ana Branch Project**

Over the last two weeks, three Updated Scoping Meetings were held for the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor Project. 255 people participated in these meetings held in downtown Los Angeles, Cudahy and Bellflower. These included elected officials and/or staff from the cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Cudahy, Downey, Huntington Park, Los Angeles and South Gate, along with staff representing Assembly Speaker Rendon; Metro Directors Hahn, Solis and Garcia; LA City Council Member Jose Huizar; the Gateway Cities Council of Governments; and Eco-Rapid Transit.

Metro received valuable comments and feedback that will be analyzed and evaluated as part of the environmental study process. We anticipate returning to the Board in the fall to provide an update and releasing the draft environmental document for public review and comment in late 2019/early 2020.

All meeting materials and a video recording of the presentation are available on the project website and can be found [here](#). The formal public scoping comment period ends on **Friday, August 24**, and official comments can be submitted via mail, e-mail and our [online comment form](#). For more information, please visit the project website at [metro.net/wsab](http://metro.net/wsab).



### Next Stop: Retirement

Serving the public many years through Metro and our predecessor agencies is truly a special commitment. I want to recognize and say thank you to those who have retired this past month after serving at Metro for more than 15 years. We sincerely appreciate all the hard work, dedication, and time that went into improving the mobility of Los Angeles County. I am sure you have inspired others through your accomplishments and have served as a role model to those that are beginning their careers at Metro. We wish you all a wonderful retirement full of happiness, success and good health.

| Name          | Title/Division                             | Years of Service |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Larry Jarman  | Train Operator – Rail Operations Gold Line | 45.5             |
| Francis Louis | Stops & Zones Supervisor – Stops & Zones   | 39.25            |

|                    |                                                 |       |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Gregory Scott      | Bus Operator – Division 1                       | 37.5  |
| Christina Castro   | Sr. Service Attendant – Division 3              | 37.25 |
| Walter Venegas     | Bus Operator – Division 1                       | 35.5  |
| Billy Wilkison     | Transit Ops Supervisor – Bus Operations Control | 34    |
| Molie Avinger      | Train Operator – Rail Operations Green Line     | 32.75 |
| Ronny Terrazas     | Laborer A Leader – Stops & Zones                | 32.25 |
| David Veloz        | Property Maintainer A – Facility Maintenance    | 29    |
| Frank Morris       | Mechanic A – Division 2                         | 28.75 |
| Bruno Guillemet    | Sr. Director, Project Control                   | 28.5  |
| Eduardo Monge      | Mechanic A – Division 18                        | 28    |
| Linda Perryman     | Manager, Diversity & Economic Opportunity       | 26.75 |
| Ben Flores         | Bus Operator – Division 9                       | 24.5  |
| Harry Owens        | Bus Operator – Division 5                       | 24.25 |
| Rosalie Schmermund | Bus Operator – Division 18                      | 21.5  |
| Michael Bruce      | Sr. Service Attendant – Blue Line Fleet Svcs.   | 21.5  |
| Frederick Carrillo | Body Repairer A - CMS                           | 19.75 |
| Juan Soto          | Transit Operations Supervisor – Vehicle Ops.    | 19.25 |
| John Gardner       | Mechanic A – Division 9                         | 19.25 |
| Maria Bautista     | Custodian – Wayside Sys. Custodial Svcs.        | 19.25 |
| Gerardo Bautista   | CCTV Observer – Rail Control Center             | 19    |
| John Rice          | Mechanic A - Division 7                         | 15.5  |
| Otis Harrell       | Traction Power Inspector                        | 15.25 |

#### Procurement Postings

##### Business Interruption Fund Administration Services (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a qualified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI)/Small Business Development Center (SBDC) firm to provide professional services for the administration of Metro's Pilot Business Interruption Fund (BIF). The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Monday, August 6, 2018 through Thursday, January 3, 2019.

The CDFI/SBDC firm shall be responsible for administration and meeting the resource requirements (personnel and infrastructure); processing business eligibility, developing timeline and process for evaluation, selecting and awarding grant funds; providing reporting; and administering the fund account.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Lily Lopez, Contract Administration Manager, at (213) 922-4639.

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## Construction Notices - Regional Connector, I-5

### [Regional Connector Transit Project: Weekend Closure of Flower St/6th St](#)

Construction of the Regional Connector has reached the halfway mark, and crews can now start building the connection to the 7th St/Metro Center station in downtown L.A.'s Financial District. Beginning Saturday, July 7, a series of Flower St weekend closures will be in effect through October 22 in downtown LA's Financial District.

[Caltrans Interstate 5](#): All construction updates [here](#).

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"The key is not the will to win... Everybody has that. It is the will to prepare to win that is important."

~ Bobby Knight



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