

CEO BRIEF | EVERY VOICE COUNTS

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Chief Executive Officer

Monday, May 13, 2019

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Wayfindr Indoor Navigation Testing Successful at Union Station

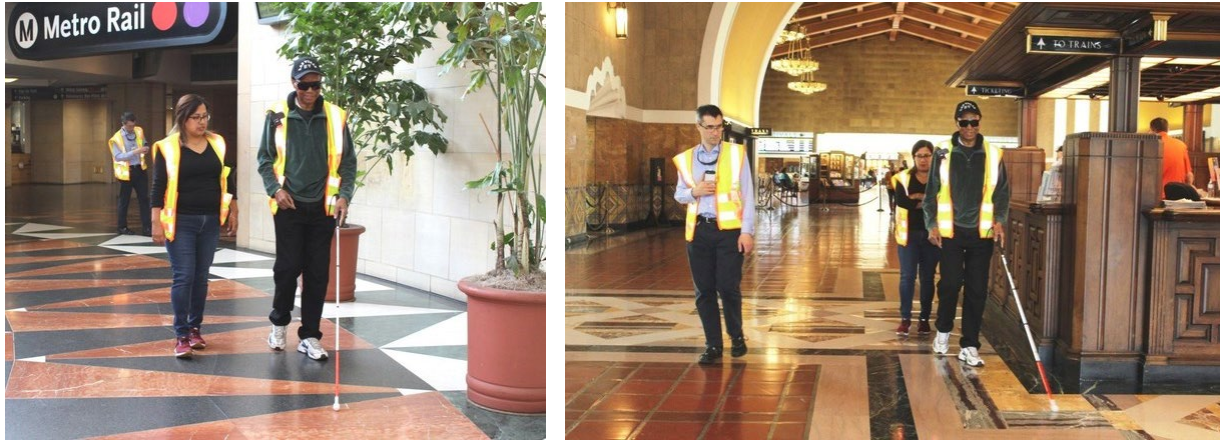
Metro Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has been working over the past year with Wayfindr to test a cutting edge indoor navigation app designed to assist blind and visually impaired customers with independent travel through transit stations and hubs. Wayfindr, a tech non-profit based in UK, has developed an internationally recognized standard software prototype providing audio instructions and prompts - via smart phone - to blind and visually impaired customers navigating transit facilities. The software relies upon signals from a network of Bluetooth Low Energy beacons (BLEBs) strategically placed inside the station. The software determines location of the customer based upon BLEBs signals and provides appropriate audio instructions corresponding with key points along the pedestrian route of travel.

Over 50 successful trials were conducted of the navigation software application at Los Angeles Union Station. As the participant makes way along the route, the software is dynamically “learning” and adjusting to the subject’s gait and rate of travel. The majority of participants arrived within a few feet or less of the targeted finish. Participant reaction to the live trial was overwhelmingly positive. Post-trial survey results found 77% “much more likely” to use public transit if an indoor navigation mobile app similar to Wayfindr were available. Only 2 % of respondents would still prefer travel by car.

Prior to the live trials, none of the participants had ever been able to successfully navigate Union Station independently. Rather than attempt the complexities of a fixed route trip requiring transfer at LAUS, blind participants instead opt to rely on Access services or other means of non-fixed route transport.

Depending upon a few more next steps and resource availability, roll out of the software application for a

mobile device may potentially be completed within the next 12 months. Media coverage of the live testing was broadcasted on NPR “Take Two” and Spectrum TV News 1 and can be viewed [here](#).



Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month: Leadership Spotlight - Alan Tang

In recognition of Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I want to recognize Alan Tang, Sr. Manager, Equipment Maintenance in the Non-Revenue (NR) Department. Alan, originally from Cambodia, is a 17-year Metro employee who started at Metro as an Administrative Analyst in the Revenue Collection Equipment Maintenance. He moved on to assignments with the Quality Assurance Department working on contracts, environmental compliance support activities, and assisted with the purchase of NR vehicles. Alan transitioned to an Equipment Maintenance Supervisor and was soon promoted to an Assistant Manager, Maintenance Operations in the NR Department.

Alan's current role, Sr. Manager, Equipment Maintenance, places him responsible for a team of over 90 Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) staff who maintain vehicles and equipment that support buses and trains. He takes pride in knowing that his department assists thousands of Metro employees in executing their daily operations and enjoys his contribution to the mobility of the people in Los Angeles County. Alan genuinely cares about his service to the public.

Alan understands the importance of having good work ethic, being a team player, and being supportive and flexible with department needs. Specifically, Alan's ascent in the agency is attributed to his hard work, dedication to his employees, and years of developing excellent relationships throughout the agency. These relationships have aided in the execution of challenging tasks and have helped him meet the goals and objectives of the Operations department and the agency. In his spare time, Alan enjoys reading, outdoor activities travelling and visiting new places. Thank you, Alan, for the dedication and commitment to making Metro a world-class transportation system.



Bus Division 1 Visit with Transit Operations and Maintenance Staff

On Friday, I had a chance to leave the office for a visit to bus Division 1, Downtown Los Angeles. It is an interesting time for staff at Division 1, one of Metro's oldest divisions, as they prepare for a complete renovation of the transportation building starting next month. I met with operators in the train room to listen to issues, comments, concerns as well as compliments and positive remarks such as their appreciation of law enforcement visibility aboard buses. I discussed our board approved feasibility study on congestion relief pricing, informed them of designated Metro fare checkers, and our interests in regulating transportation network companies and electric scooters. I want to thank Division 1 Director of Transportation Tonia Zanders and her staff for showing me around their offices and opening up discussions with our front line employees. Also, thanks to Manager of Maintenance Operations Fermin Mora for getting us some time with the maintenance staff and having a light discussion on their work tasks and needs.



Metro's Highway Program Receives the ACEC's Client of the Year Award

On April 24, the Los Angeles County Chapter of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) recognized the hard work of the Metro Highway Program during its Annual Achievement Awards Banquet held in Downtown Los Angeles. At this year's event, the Metro Highway Program received ACEC's "Client of the Year Award" for the department's ongoing commitment to fostering a strong working relationship with the ACEC Los Angeles Chapter and its membership comprised of engineers, architects, land surveyors and other engineering specialists. Abdollah Ansari, Senior Executive Officer leading the Metro Highway Program, received the award on behalf of the department and acknowledged the dedication and commitment of his Metro team. With a \$30 billion highway project portfolio of existing and future projects, continued engagement with professional organizations like ACEC will be critical to ensure Metro can meet regional expectations and

deliver projects efficiently. Congratulations to Metro Highway Program.



Metro Attends the APA 2019 National Planning Conference in San Francisco

The American Planning Association (APA) hosted the 2019 National Planning Conference in San Francisco, last month. This year's theme, "Planning Connects Us" was symbolic of the unique role that Planning contributes to the built environment. The Conference attracted 6,400 attendees including Metro employees from the Countywide Planning and Development Department: Scott Hartwell, Derek R. Hull, Matt Kridler, Kidada Malloy and Sarah Schurtz. Metro Principal Real Estate Officer Derek Hull served as both mobile workshop speaker and conference session organizer.

Derek's conference session, "Where to Place Affordable Housing?" attracted the interest of Planners from around the country. He also received the Divisions Council Chair's Award 2019, for his work as Chair of Planning and the Black Community Division (PBCD), the second oldest Division of APA. Under his leadership, Derek has increased PBCD's membership by six percent and hosted several national and regional events to highlight the impact of Planning on Communities of Color.

Metro Administrative Intern Kidada Malloy, received a travel scholarship from APA to attend the conference where she had an opportunity to attend sessions and network with some of the nation's top planners. A familiar face was among the attendees - Therese McMillan, former Metro Chief Planning Officer, participated on a session panel entitled "Women of Color Piercing the Ceiling (in Planning)."

Metro Manager of Transportation Planning Scott Harwell described the conference as an enjoyable experience, especially being located in the heart of a city where examples of robust transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure are all around. Congratulations to Derek for his second Divisions Council Award and thanks to Metro planning staff for representing Metro with excellence at the National Planning Conference.



Crenshaw Area Community Organizations Dedicate Landmark Mural with Metro Arts & Design

Last Saturday, a landmark mural celebrating Hyde Park community stories was unveiled at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Slauson Avenue. The project was painted by lead artist Moses Ball, in collaboration with rising artist Dezmond Crockett and area youth. The project, which is installed on private property adjacent to the future Hyde Park Metro Rail station, was Funded by Transportation for America (T4A) and led by the local non-profit LA Commons, who will own and maintain the mural.

The project was one of three nationwide placemaking projects to receive a grant from T4A, funded through the Kresge Foundation and is tied to improving the first last mile experience. Additional project partners included Park Mesa Heights Community Council, HOPE Hyde Park, and the office of Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson. Metro Arts & Design provided technical support. Photos of the project and celebratory event can be viewed [here](#).



Procurement Postings

Citizens Broadband Radio Services / Private Long-Term Evolution Proof of Concept (RFIQ)

Metro released a Request for Interest and Qualifications (RFIQ) for a prototype of a Citizens Broadband Radio Services / Private Long-Term Evolution Proof of Concept. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, May 10, 2019 through Monday, November 11, 2019.

This RFIQ is for a prototype of a Citizens Broadband Radio Services / Private Long-Term Evolution Proof of Concept.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Lorretta Norris, Sr. Contract Administrator at (213) 922-2632.

P2000 Coupler Assembly Overhaul (RFP)

Metro released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to perform overhaul services for the Green Line P2000 Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) Coupler Assembly. The procurement process blackout period is expected to run from Friday, May 3, 2019 through Friday, July 19, 2019.

Metro is seeking proposals from qualified firms to provide services to overhaul the P2000 Coupler Assembly used on the Metro Green Line P2000 Passenger light rail vehicles. The Contractor is required to pick-up, overhaul, test, deliver and warrant the couplers according to the specifications in the solicitation.

Any inquiries concerning this procurement action during the blackout period must be directed to and may only be answered by Jean M. Davis, Senior Contract Administrator at (213) 922-1041.

Construction Notices: Regional Connector, Purple Line Extension, Patsaouras Bus Plaza, I-5

Regional Connector: Deck Panel Removal for Excavation on Flower St

Excavation of the tunnel box below Flower St continues in downtown Los Angeles as part of efforts to connect the Regional Connector Transit Project to the existing 7th St/Metro Center Station. In order to effectively build the tunnel box, crews will remove segments of the road deck panels on weekdays during daytime hours, between 5th and 6th St with minimal impacts to the traveling public. To learn more, click [here](#) for the full construction notice.

Regional Connector: Excavation on Flower St Continues Southward

Work continues steadily below Flower St, with rebar and concrete installation between 4th and 5th St. South of 5th St, excavation and utility hanging is moving steadily towards the future connection to 7th St/Metro Center Station. Ultimately, some 108,000 cubic yards of soil will be excavated from beneath Flower St. Work will continue from May 8, 2017 and continue through summer 2019.

Purple Line Extension Project: Utility Potholing below Wilshire Blvd

Utility potholing began to identify existing utilities below Wilshire Blvd. between Beverly Dr. and N. Crescent Dr. All work will be completed during non-peak hour traffic times. Lane closures and turn restrictions on Wilshire Blvd. will be required for this work. Two lanes will always be maintained on Wilshire Blvd. both eastbound and westbound. Communication efforts will be ongoing to provide stakeholders sufficient notice prior to work starting in specific areas.

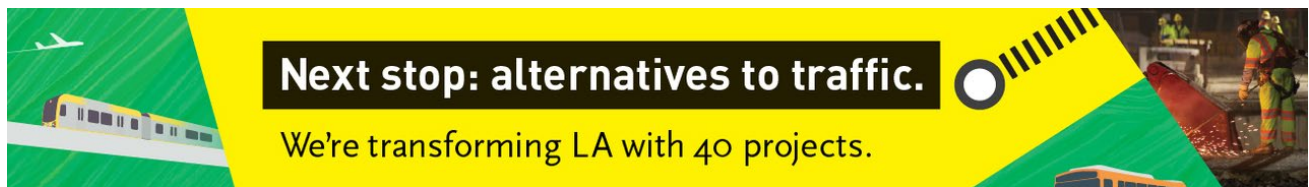
Patsaouras Bus Plaza Station Project

Northbound U.S. 101 Vignes St. Ramp Closures - The Northbound U.S. 101 Vignes St. on/off ramps, adjacent to the construction zone, will experience ramp closures on Monday, May 13 and Thursday, May 16, 2019 between the hours of 8am to 4pm.

Caltrans Interstate 5: All Construction Updates [here](#).

"It is more often more important to be ahead of the majority and this means being willing to cut the first furrow in the ground and stand alone for a while if necessary."

~ Patsy Takemoto Mink



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