



## Juneteenth Recognition and Celebration

It's About Freedom, It's About New Hope, It's About Change

### Metro African American Trailblazers and Pioneers In The Spotlight



Today we recognize and celebrate Linda B. Wright. Ms. Wright has over 45 years of experience in the areas of labor wage compliance, equal opportunity/affirmative action, contract compliance and minority, women and disadvantaged business enterprise program management.

After a successful professional career that began in 1967, with service to Laborers Local 300 and the Community Redevelopment Agency – Los Angeles, she established King & Wright Consulting, Inc. in 1989. Linda began her career at Metro in 1999 as a Sr. DEOD Representative. Moving up within the agency, she's held numerous positions and currently serves as the Executive Officer of Diversity & Economic Opportunity. Under her direction, DEOD has developed and implemented the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, the Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program, the Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE) Program, the Small Business Set-a-Side (SBSAS) Program, Project Labor Agreement and Construction Careers Policy and most recently the Living Wage Initiative. These programs all provide **New Hope and Change** for many businesses and workers in our community.

**Linda's thoughts about Juneteenth and AAEA** - Not all businesses, or even public agencies have an organization like the AAEA. Metro is very fortunate to have African American employees and others who understand the value of keeping our rich heritage and tradition alive. I can picture receipt of the news of freedom back in 1865 ranging from pure shock to immediate jubilation. Back then, like today we still have obstacles we have to overcome. We are a strong and resilient people. I thank my fore-fathers for their courage, wisdom, hope, good food and sense of style.

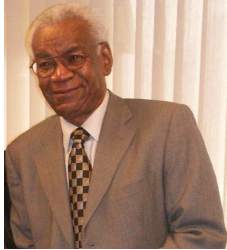
Metro AAEA along with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is proud to spotlight Trailblazer, Linda B. Wright for the program initiatives developed here at Metro to support change in our community.



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### **Metro African American Trailblazers and Pioneers In The Spotlight**



Today we recognize and celebrate James H. Woodson. Mr. Woodson is the Executive Director of Transportation here at Metro. In that role he is responsible for leading Metro Bus Transportation

Mr. Woodson, known by many as “Woody” started his transportation career with the Southern California Rapid Transit District (RTD), as a bus operator in 1975. For the next five years he operated buses at multiple divisions, and gained extensive knowledge of RTD’s service area and operation. The experience and knowledge lead to promotional opportunities, and James began working his way up through the ranks. He’s handled various disciplines within operations and has held the following positions: Supervisor Trainer, Assistant Manager Manpower, Director Operations Support, Service Operations Superintendent Transportation and Executive Director Transportation. His responsibilities have included coordinating, assigning and dispatching work assignments to bus operators; developing training curriculum for division supervisory personnel and teacher. He has planned and directed activities related to staffing, and he assists with the general administrative functions for Metro’s Transit Operations Unit. He has been a great example to Metro employees and has provided **Hope and Change** for many in the areas he has worked.

**Woody’s thoughts about Juneteenth and AAEA** – I think it’s great that Metro and the AAEA are recognizing Juneteenth. We have a very rich and impressive history that needs to be shared. This platform (Juneteenth) provides a great opportunity to celebrate and share that vibrant history and encourage our future leaders.

Metro AAEA along with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is proud to spotlight Trailblazer, James H. Woodson, and thank him for the sacrifice and contributions made to support the a better tomorrow.