



Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro**

**News**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Two Metro Facilities to be used as Vote Centers Beginning Feb. 22**  
**Metro to Offer Free Rides on Election Day, March 3**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) will be providing free rides on Election Day, March 3, on all Metro buses and trains. In addition, two of Metro's facilities located in downtown Los Angeles and El Monte will be used as official vote centers from Feb. 22 to March 3 for voters who want to cast their vote early.

Working with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder's Office, both Metro's first floor plaza level area of its headquarters building (One Gateway Plaza in downtown Los Angeles, next to Union Station) and the El Monte Bus Station (3357 Santa Anita Avenue in El Monte) will be used as vote centers from Feb. 22 through Election Day. The County Registrar-Recorder's Office also has placed a Vote by Mail Box in the East Portal area of Union Station where voters can drop off their mail-in ballots.

In addition, Metro's Bike Share program will be providing free fares on election day. The public can ride Metro Bike Share to the polls without using any type of a special code. Just visit any bike station kiosk to get a free single ride. The single ride is valued at \$1.75 for 30 minutes of ride time. The first 30 minutes are free, and the cost is \$1.75 per 30 minutes thereafter.

Access Services, funded by Metro to provide paratransit service in Los Angeles County, has also approved a policy to allow Access riders and their companions to travel free on trips to and from the polls on Election Day March 3.

"We want to make it easy for people to get to the polls and cast their vote this election year," said Metro Board Chair and City of Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts. "Metro wants to make sure all of the region's voters get the message and vote!"

The Metro Board of Directors in 2018 approved providing free rides for statewide and federal elections on a Board motion made by Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board first Vice Chair Eric Garcetti and co-authored by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia.

“A lack of transportation should never stand between a voter and the polls,” said Mayor Garcetti. “Every vote counts in this democracy, and we have to do everything we can to help Americans exercise our most fundamental right.”

Recent studies have shown that a lack of transportation is one factor for people who do not vote. The lack of access to transportation disproportionately impacts minority voters, people with low incomes, persons with disabilities and younger voters.

“It’s an honor to provide free transportation for one of the most important activities in our democracy,” said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. “I encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to make their voices heard.’

#### About Metro

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is building the most ambitious transportation infrastructure program in the United States and is working to greatly improve mobility through its [Vision 2028 Plan](#). Metro is the lead transportation planning and funding agency for L.A. County and carries about 1.2 million boardings daily on a fleet of 2,200 low-emission buses and six rail lines.

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