



Metro

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MAY 30, 2017

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM: PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

PAW

SUBJECT: METRO RECEIVES APTA RAIL CONFERENCE SECURITY AWARD

ISSUE

This Board Box is to inform the Metro Board of Directors that on Friday, May 26, 2017, I received a letter from the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), informing us that Metro was named the winner of APTA's Rail Safety and Security Gold Award for Heavy Rail transit agencies.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the APTA Rail Safety and Security Award competition is to encourage transit systems to improve their safety programs. The competition is open to all rail transit agencies in both the United States and Canada.

APTA is recognizing Metro for system-wide security enhancements and improvements that we have only just begun. Specifically, they have recognized all the work that has gone into our new comprehensive multi-agency policing model, Metro's homeless initiatives and the extensive work we are managing with local and county partners to address homelessness that impacts the Metro system, and have also observed the groundbreaking efforts to reduce and prevent sexual harassment on our system.

We are currently in the process of the multi-agency mobilization plan with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department and the Long Beach Police Department which is focused on an increased police presence and visibility across the system as well as improved police response times. We recently launched homeless outreach teams on the Metro system comprised of nurses, substance abuse counselors, mental health clinicians and other outreach workers. Lastly, a few years back, Metro partnered with the non-profit Peace Over Violence to combat sexual harassment with awareness campaigns including the Sexual Harassment is "Off Limits

Campaign” and a first-of-its-kind, 24/7 sexual harassment hotline staffed by counselors from Peace Over Violence, an organization with 45 years of experience counseling victims of sexual abuse.

NEXT STEPS

As mentioned, this is just the beginning of a robust set of initiatives and goals being delivered by our System Safety, Security and Law Enforcement team being led by Alex Wiggins, Metro Chief, System Security and Law Enforcement. I look forward to announcing more accomplishments and milestones regarding safety and security on our transit system. Metro will proudly be accepting this APTA award in June at the 2017 APTA Rail Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.