

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority



# Metro Equity Platform Framework

Fiscal Year 2019 Activation Plan



# Metro Equity Platform Framework

Access to opportunity: a core concept to public decision-making, public investment, and public service

- Vast disparity exists in LA County among neighborhoods and individuals:
  - To seize opportunity – jobs, housing, education, health, safety;
  - To improve their circumstances to do so.
- Transportation is an essential lever to enable that access.

# Metro Equity Platform Framework

## Why an Equity Platform now?

- As a transportation leader, Metro can and should address disparities.
- Metro has already signaled a change:
  - Measure M: performance metric considerations
  - New Long Range Transportation Plan committed early to Equity
  - Recent, targeted community collaborations (First/Last Mile, Rail to Rail grant effort)
- Exploratory outreach to LA County equity thought leaders

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The Platform is not any single task that will be “finished”. Instead, the Platform is:

- A vehicle to inform, shape and guide all lines of the agency’s business on a continuing basis
- A commitment to incorporate Equity principles and pursue equitable outcomes
- A paradigm that will help identify and implement projects or programs that close or eliminate disparities in access to opportunity
- A set of outcomes driven by access needs and not merely a calculated geographic distribution

# Metro Equity Platform Framework

Multi-point Equity Platform is built on four pillars:

- I. Define and Measure
- II. Listen and Learn
- III. Focus and Deliver
- IV. Train and Grow

# Metro Equity Platform Framework

## I. Define and Measure

Defining “equity” and matching with performance metrics. Efforts include:

- Work with the Policy Advisory Council to define “opportunity gaps” and related performance metrics as part of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
- Construct and apply equity-driven performance metrics in key Metro initiatives:
  - LRTP process to develop guide for identifying equity concerns and solutions
  - NextGen Bus Study
  - Equity Assessment section in all Planning Board Reports

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## II. Listen and Learn

Establishing a connection between Metro and the Los Angeles County community. Efforts include:

- New partnerships with Community Based Organizations (CBOs):
  - Blue Line, First/Last Mile Plan lessons learned
  - Communications Dept policy on CBO partnerships
  - Staff have engaged community members on safety and security concerns raised by riders
  - Agency is serving as Transportation Working Group co-chair of the South Los Angeles Promise Zone (Slate Z)
- Community-driven collaborations led by the Policy Advisory Council



**Metro**

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## II. Listen and Learn (cont.)

- Evaluating and establishing Equity Advisory avenues
  - Assigning the Policy Advisory Council and its associated networks a technical advisory role
  - Developing a “Blue Ribbon Commission” or similar forum to draw Equity thought leaders from LA County to advise on specific topics (housing/displacement, public health, community safety and security)
  - Actively participating in local and national forums to address equity challenges and increase exposure to best practices



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## IV. Train and Grow

Top-to-bottom commitment from within Metro to understand, embrace and maximize equity advancement. Efforts include:

- Senior- and executive-level training program in racial equity
- Trainings and seminars geared to Metro-related focus areas in collaboration with philanthropic foundations
- Workshop on technical best practices for equity measurement and analysis

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## III. Focus and Deliver

Implementing actions and programs that carry out the Platform. Efforts include:

- NextGen Bus Study
- Women and Girls Governing Council
- LRTP
- Assistance to Disadvantaged Business Enterprise/Veterans Business Enterprise firms
- Career Pathway initiatives, including Transportation School
- Potential consultant assistance to resource-challenged local jurisdictions in Los Angeles County

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## Next Steps

- Staff will report on milestones achieved on individual Equity Platform actions on an ongoing basis



Thank you

