

Behind the Scenes



Executive Director's Report

This week the draft budget was presented to both the CAC and TPAC Advisory Committees. The budget presentation was well received and both committees were complimentary of staff and all of the effort that goes into preparing and presenting the budget to those bodies.

The Access budget will be put into its final form for consideration by the Access Board at the June meeting later this month. Metro, at its May 2021 Board meeting, approved Metro's overall budget inclusive of the funding for Access. Later this month at Metro's June Board meeting, Metro staff will bring the Access funding item to its Board for consideration.

Lastly, staff is working jointly with Metro staff to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for fiscal year 2022. Access staff expects to finalize the draft of the MOU before the end of this month.

Andre Colaiace
Executive Director

Access produces ProMaster Safety Video

The Access Fleet Department recently produced a pre-check safety video for our new ProMaster vehicle.

Filmed at Access' Eligibility Center in the City of Commerce, the video begins with footage of a driver using a maintenance inspection form to complete their pre-check inspection. The video shows the internal aspects of our new ProMaster vehicle which includes five (5) ambulatory and two (2) mobility device areas, leaving plenty of room for customers to store their belongings and move freely while locating their seat. The interior is highlighted in yellow for visibility and is well lit. Lastly, the upgraded securement system helps the drivers fasten the riders safely and efficiently.



The video is being shown on the safety monitors at all our provider locations. The project underscores how Access' Fleet and Operations Department pay close attention to details, which is essential to ensure rider safety and comfort. I would like to thank Access' Chief Marketing and Creative Officer Josh Southwick and Nancy Loaiza from Global Paratransit for producing the safety video.

Tamika Arana
Fleet Maintenance Analyst

2021 Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Annual Conference

I recently attended this year's virtual 2021 WTS Annual Conference.



The online seminars were just as captivating as it would have been if it were an in-person conference. The speakers presented the information very well while also exposing me to new topics outside of human resources. For example, the presentation, "The Future Starts Now: Developing a Workforce that Represents the Communities We Serve," discussed how it is important to connect with young women and expose them to the job opportunities in the transportation industry. I learned that women are more likely to utilize public transportation, yet less

likely to work in transportation. There may be many reasons for that, but the message was clear and that was that the transportation industry has a shortage of women in the workforce.

Understanding how women utilize transportation is paramount to planning future modes of transportation so it works best for all users, including women. Transportation staff today is planning the transportation of the future, so it is very important to be able to obtain that perspective. As the speakers delved further into the topic, I realized several of the topics discussed were also relatable to human resources initiatives, such as diversity, equity and inclusion. I left this seminar with a sense of duty to help promote transportation as a career field to others.

Elizabeth Zambrano, MBA, IPMA-SCP
Human Resources Manager

Commendations

"I would like to file a smile for everyone at Access. I love the launch of the Where's My Ride app and appreciate how Access continues to improve over the years. Overall, I am very pleased with Access."

Monique La Master
Rider since March 2020

"I am filing a commendation for the continued reliability of Access transportation through the pandemic. I am relieved that Access continued to enable me to get to important appointments. With all the uncertainty this past year, Access's commitment to its riders never wavered."

Hector Reyes
Rider since March 2020