

METRO AS A SANCTUARY: REIMAGINING SAFETY ON PUBLIC TRANSIT



BACKGROUND

- At no cost to Metro, jurisdictions are required to enforce laws on system.
- In 2017, Metro's Directors approved **\$786 million** in three 5-year policing contract to LAPD, LASD and LBPD, paying police overtime to ride trains and buses.
- Contracts mismanaged and, in 2021, Directors approved an extra \$36 million.
- Metro NextGen needs \$1 billion one-time investment for world-class bus system.
- Black riders harmed disproportionately: 50% of Metro citations go to Black riders who make up 18% of all Metro riders.
- Social workers on Metro are 27 times more effective at placing unhoused riders into housing than police.

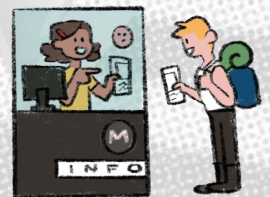
RECOMMENDATION

- End existing police contracts no later than their term limit of June 2022.
- Invest hundreds of millions of dollars in savings prospectively in community-led public safety solutions, like the ones identified in our report.



CARE-CENTERED POSSIBILITIES

What sorts of design interventions could transform **Metro into a sanctuary**: offering every transit rider and worker equal protections and entitlements to safety, freedom, belonging, and care as they move within and across neighborhoods?



FAILED APPROACH

Metro's current approach to safety on public transit is based on flawed assumptions and results in profoundly harmful racial profiling and criminalization while failing to address in any real and lasting way the lack of services and housing accessible to unhoused people. We could transform the region by divesting the hundreds of millions of dollars from the multi agency policing contracts and instead investing them in the community- and public health-based safety alternatives outlined in this report.

READ THE FULL REPORT:

bit.ly/MetroSanctuaryReport

WATCH THE WEBINAR:

bit.ly/MetroSanctuaryWebinar

