

Metro Bike Share Rally

Thursday, May 22, 9AM in front of Metro HQ

BTS Friends, Staff and Partners,

For the past several months Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) has been hard at work, operating Metro Bike Share and bidding to deliver the next generation of Metro Bike Share.

Last Thursday May 15, a Metro Board Committee voted to approve to award this 11 year, \$200 million contract to Lyft.

However, this Full Metro Board has not yet voted, and we need to show them that the community supports BTS, a union-operated, community-centered bike share leader. We are asking you to spread the word and **attend a rally at 9AM at Metro Headquarters on Thursday May 22, 2025**. Here's why:

- **Lyft's ethics violation:** Just days ago, it was discovered that Lyft submitted a proposal in partnership with Alta Planning + Design as a subcontractor—despite Alta's role in helping to draft the very RFP they later bid on. This represents a clear conflict of interest and a violation of public contracting rules, as well as state and federal law.
- **Protest:** BTS submitted a protest highlighting this blatant ethics violation, and the item was pulled from the full board meeting. The outcome of this protest and ethics violation is still unknown.
- **Lyft undercutting union wages:** Again, just days ago, it was discovered that, despite saying they would honor the current union contract, Lyft plans to cut union wages by up to \$14,000 per year for the lowest paid staff. At a time when inflation is rising and the cost of living in Los Angeles is among the highest in the nation, a pay cut of this magnitude would be devastating to the passionate, amazing bike share workers.

The path forward is clear: **Metro must disqualify Lyft and award the contract to Bicycle Transit Systems**. Public dollars should not reward corporate misconduct. Ethics matter.

BTS submitted a strong proposal – electrifying and modernizing Metro Bike Share, with a strong community outreach and engagement program, and a fast expansion implementation plan - that reflects our deep commitment to mobility, equity, and our remarkable—and proudly unionized—workforce. Our vision for the system's continued growth is rooted in co-creating programs with the communities we serve. This is the future that LA deserves.