



PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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**El Segundo High School tour of the MLK Station at the
Metro Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project**

El Segundo-March 30th: Twenty El Segundo High School students studying Principals of Engineering learned more about the industry during a tour of the MLK Metro Station section of the Metro Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project. Organized by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board's (SBWIB) Career Pathway Program in conjunction with the engineers, safety team and community outreach associates at Walsh Group and Walsh/Shea Corridor Constructors, the students went underground to learn how a tunnel is bored to make room for lite rail. This station is part of the 8.5 mile light rail line that will run along Crenshaw Blvd and from Exposition Blvd to the Metro Green Line, expected to be completed March 2019.

The High School sophomores and their teacher, Daniel Horvath, had a couple of objectives in mind: to understand the Walsh/ Shea Corridor project and to learn about the variety of engineering disciplines and challenges necessary to complete a project of this size and scope. The experience included a safety briefing where they donned the workers' typical hard hats, boots, vests, gloves, glasses and earplugs. They were able to learn first-hand what it would be like to do several related jobs, and to consider if they would like to work on this or similar projects.

Students were guided through the project's goals, logistics, and work environment by Jamarah Hayner and Brian Hill, Walsh community relations liaisons; James Devine, L.A. Area Manager and R.W Carpenter, Tunnel Safety Manager of Walsh Construction Company. They presented an overview of the tunnel boring operation, signed in at the site, then took the construction elevator down into the work area.

"We wanted to let students see what it's really like to be an engineer; to envision the future and see a major project underway. Hopefully, this unique experience of viewing an underground project and seeing how the city and tax dollars can work together for the good of the community, might help spark or confirm their interest in engineering," Devine said. As for the students, they were completely engaged and reported being very thankful for the opportunity to have such an experience.

The SBWIB's Career Pathway programs service youth and young adults and aim to prepare them for employment while providing access to opportunities in various career fields. To learn more about the SBWIB's Career Pathways visit sbwib.org or call (310) 970-7700.

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R.W. Carpenter, Tunnel safety Manager guiding El Segundo high school students through an overview of the tunnel during their tour of the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project from Walsh Shea Construction Co.'s engineers