

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority One Gateway Plaza Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952 213.922.2000 T metro.net

# SYSTEM SAFETY & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE JUNE 20, 2013

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CHANGES TO METRO BUS AND RAIL SERVICES

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE PROPOSED CHANGES

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file report on proposed changes to Metro Bus and Rail services to be implemented June 23, 2013.

## **ISSUE**

Metro Bus and Rail services are adjusted every six months to improve schedules and modify routes to adapt to the current operating environment. For the upcoming June 26, 2013 service changes, only minor route modifications and schedule enhancements will be implemented. A minor route change at the Olive View Medical Center will improve access to both the hospital and a newly opened mental heath facility. Other bus route changes will occur in the downtown area to accommodate implementation of a streetscape project on Broadway. A service improvement on the Orange Line also is scheduled. In addition, service frequency at night on the Expo and Gold Lines will be improved, as well as weekend service on the Gold Line.

### DISCUSSION

### Olive View Medical Center

Metro has been working with the Olive View Medical Center staff to improve bus service to the existing Medical Center and the newly opened Olive View Mental Health Center. The following change will improve access to these facilities:

Line 290 Olive View Medical Center – Sunland via Foothill Bl

Line 290 will be combined with Line 90 and renumbered as Line 90. Passengers may now board a Line 90 bus from Downtown LA with continuous service to and from the Olive View Medical Center. A minor route improvement near Olive View Medical Center also allows southbound buses to serve the new Olive View Mental Health Center.

### **Broadway Service**

The City of Los Angeles is launching the Bringing Back Broadway Streetscape Project which will reduce traffic on Broadway between 1<sup>st</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets by one lane in the southbound direction for sidewalk improvements. To reduce bus congestion and ensure bus schedules are maintained, Metro will move some southbound buses from Broadway to Spring Street, as follows:

Line 40 Downtown LA – South Bay Galleria via MLK BI – Hawthorne BI Minor route and stop changes due to upcoming implementation of the Broadway Streetscape Plan. Southbound buses will be routed via Spring Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to 11<sup>th</sup> Street, then over to Broadway and the regular route.

# Line 30/330 Pico/Rimpau – Downtown LA – Indiana Station via Pico BI & East 1st St

Minor route and stop changes due to upcoming implementation of the Broadway Streetscape Plan. Southbound buses will be routed via Spring Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to Pico Boulevard, then the regular route.

## Orange Line

The success of the Metro Orange Line requires service additions during the following time periods:

## Orange Line Chatsworth Station – North Hollywood Station

Weekday mid-day service will be improved from every 10 minutes to 8 minutes. Also late night service will have minor improvements.

#### Line 603

A minor route change to improve safety will be implemented as follows:

## Line 603 Glendale Galleria – Grand Station via Hoover St, Rampart Bl & San Fernando Rd

Minor southbound reroute to Alvarado Street from Westlake Street between 6th and 7th Streets. Passengers may board Line 603 on Alvarado Street at Wilshire Boulevard.

#### Late Night Rail Service

In November 2011, frequencies between 8:00 pm - midnight on the Red/Purple and Blue Lines improved from 20 minutes to 10 minutes. For June 23, 2013, this enhancement will be implemented on the Expo and Gold Lines to ensure consistent service levels for improved connections between rail lines. In addition, weekend frequencies will be improved from 12 minutes to 7.5 minutes on weekends on the Gold Line.

#### **Public Outreach**

The following efforts will provide information to patrons about the upcoming changes:

- Takes-ones are in production for distribution on the impacts lines.
- Marketing brochure will be mailed to divisions this Monday, June 3.
- June Metro Insider brochure is already on trains and buses, featuring shakeup information.
- Bus Operators/Ambassadors and Metro Service Planning Staff will be passing out information on Broadway at Lines 30/330 and 40 stops prior to and during the first week of the route changes.
- Information will be posted on bus stop signs on southbound Broadway notifying move to southbound Spring Street.

### TITLE VI/ ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT

None of the service adjustments described in this report meets the major service change threshold defined by Metro. Metro policy does not require a public hearing or a Title VI and Environmental Justice Analysis if the changes do not meet the major service change threshold.

## **DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT**

The Board of Directors consideration of the service changes presented in this report has no direct impact on the safety of Metro's employees or customers.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The Board of Directors' consideration of the service changes presented in this report is included in the FY2014 adopted budget.

### Impact to Budget

Approval of this report is consistent with the FY2014 adopted budget.

### ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The minor route modifications will benefit patrons destined for two medical facilities at the Olive View Medical Center and will reduce crowding on the Orange Line. Line changes in downtown Los Angeles will assist in the implementation of the Broadway Streetscape Project. The alternative is to not implement these changes by maintaining service as it operates today. This is not recommended, as the minor route changes improve mobility in the region, reduce passenger overloads and provide for sidewalk and street improvements in the downtown area.

## **NEXT STEPS**

All of the proposed changes will begin on June 23, 2013 or later.

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