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LOCAL NEWS

L.A. Metro apologizes to people 'stranded' after services were halted over protests

by: [Marissa Wenzke](#)

Posted: May 31, 2020 / 11:08 AM PDT / Updated: May 31, 2020 / 02:56 PM PDT

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority on Sunday apologized to riders left stranded after a halt to all services amid protests.

“Metro apologizes to transit customers who were stranded as a result of the suspension of transit services on Saturday night,” the agency said. “We took this action out of utmost concern for the public and our employees during the growing severity of this protest.”

L.A. demonstrations against police brutality following the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis were centered Saturday in the Fairfax District, where people climbed onto buildings and a police car went up in flames. Some Metro buses were seen vandalized and covered in spray painted markings, people at times jumping on top of them.

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that decision led to some riders being left stranded, the agency said in a statement, announcing services would resume Sunday after [“many people expressed concerns.”](#)

The transit service also [promised to reimburse riders](#) who paid for an Uber or cab to get home Saturday night, telling them to call customer service at 323.GO.METRO or email CustometRelations@metro.net.

Mayor Eric Garcetti announced another 8 p.m. curfew Sunday, but L.A. Metro said it plans to run on regular schedule until midnight, then again on Monday morning.

As Santa Monica began to get crowded with protesters on Sunday afternoon, however, city officials announced the Metro Expo Line service is terminating at the 26th Street station.

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“There may be rolling bus detours and temporary service suspensions depending on the situation in the area,” L.A. Metro said in a tweet. “Safety for our riders and employees is our top concern.”

**LA Metro**  @metrolosangeles · May 31, 2020

Replying to @metrolosangeles

Currently Line 33/733, 704 and 720 are detouring in the Downtown Santa Monica area. The F Line (Expo) is also turning



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the Fairfax District and downtown — areas hit by protests in recent days.

Changes to services didn't start Saturday until just after 2 p.m., when L.A. Metro said L Line trains would skip Mariachi Plaza and Soto Station in Boyle Heights.

"Consider Line 30 as an alternative," the transit service told riders [in a tweet](#).

Riders received little notice about the halts to service that would come just hours later, leading to L.A. Metro's formal apology Sunday morning.

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2:49 PM · May 31, 2020



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Garcetti also apologized for the ending of Metro services Saturday night.

“It was not an easy decision decision given the challenge of balancing safety and maintaining that lifeline for so many people,” Garcetti said, explaining he decided to halt service out of concern for transit employees. He mentioned the damage left to a Metro bus amid the unrest.

But, on social media, some blasted L.A. Metro further when [LAist tweeted a photo](#) of uniformed officers appearing to escort people in handcuffs onto a Metro bus.



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10:51 AM · May 31, 2020



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See Sydney Kamlager's other Tweets

**Aaron**

@aceckhouse



LA Metro disgraced itself last night

**LAist**  @LAist

LAPD officers load arrested protestors into an L.A. Metro bus.

Photo by @StoltzeFrankly

10:23 AM · May 31, 2020



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See Aaron

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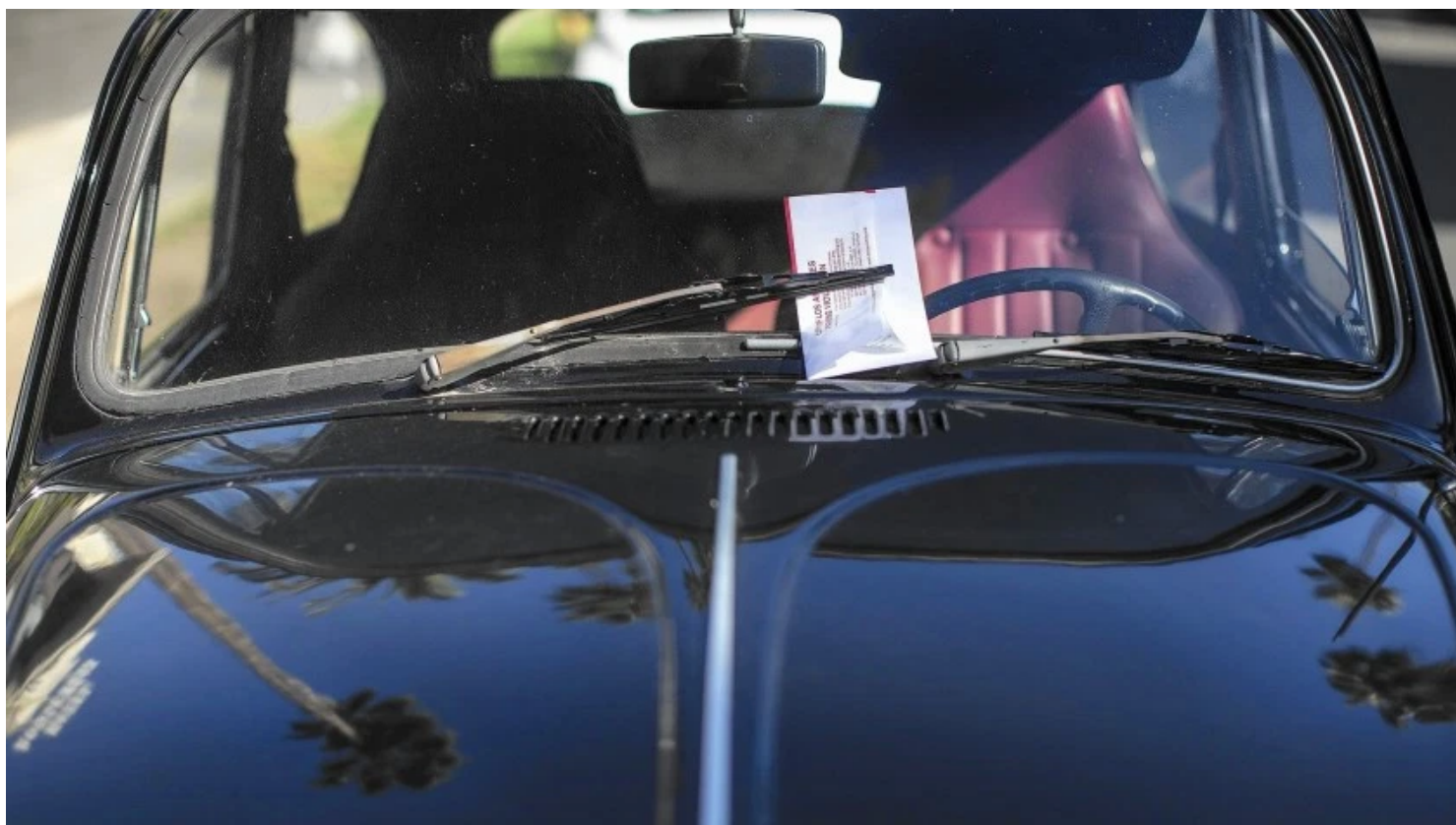
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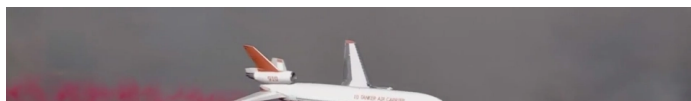


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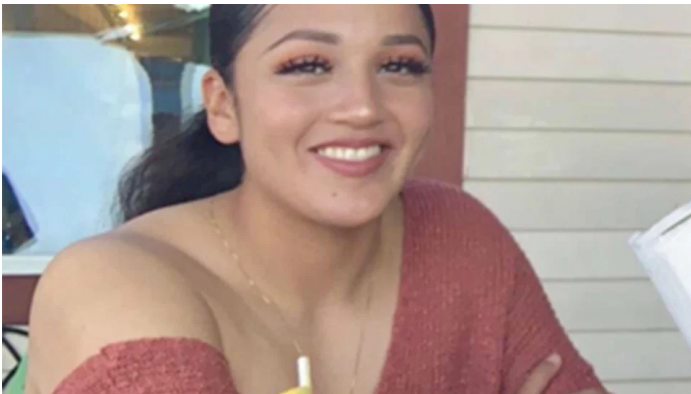
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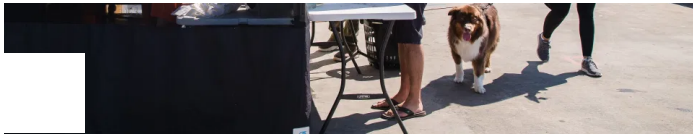


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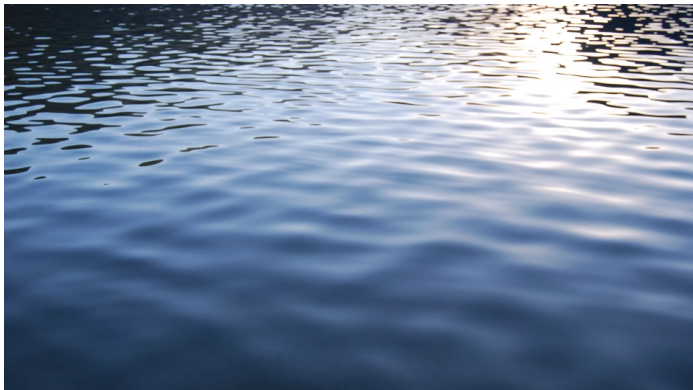
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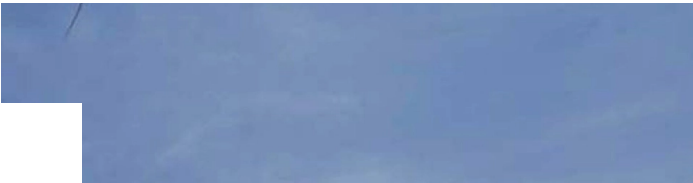


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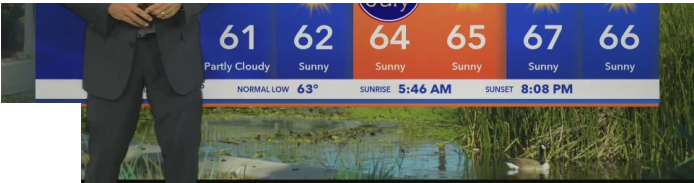
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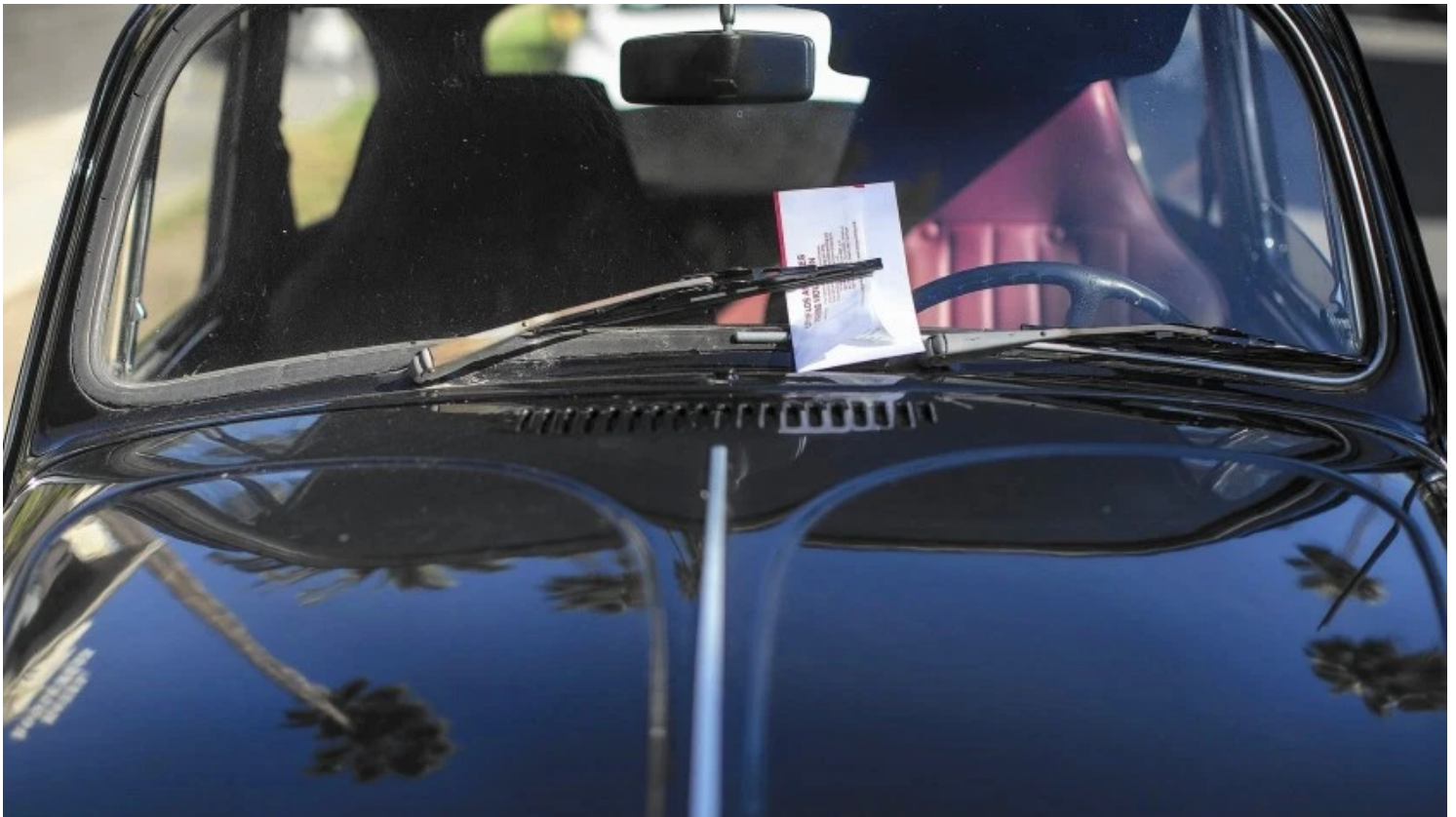
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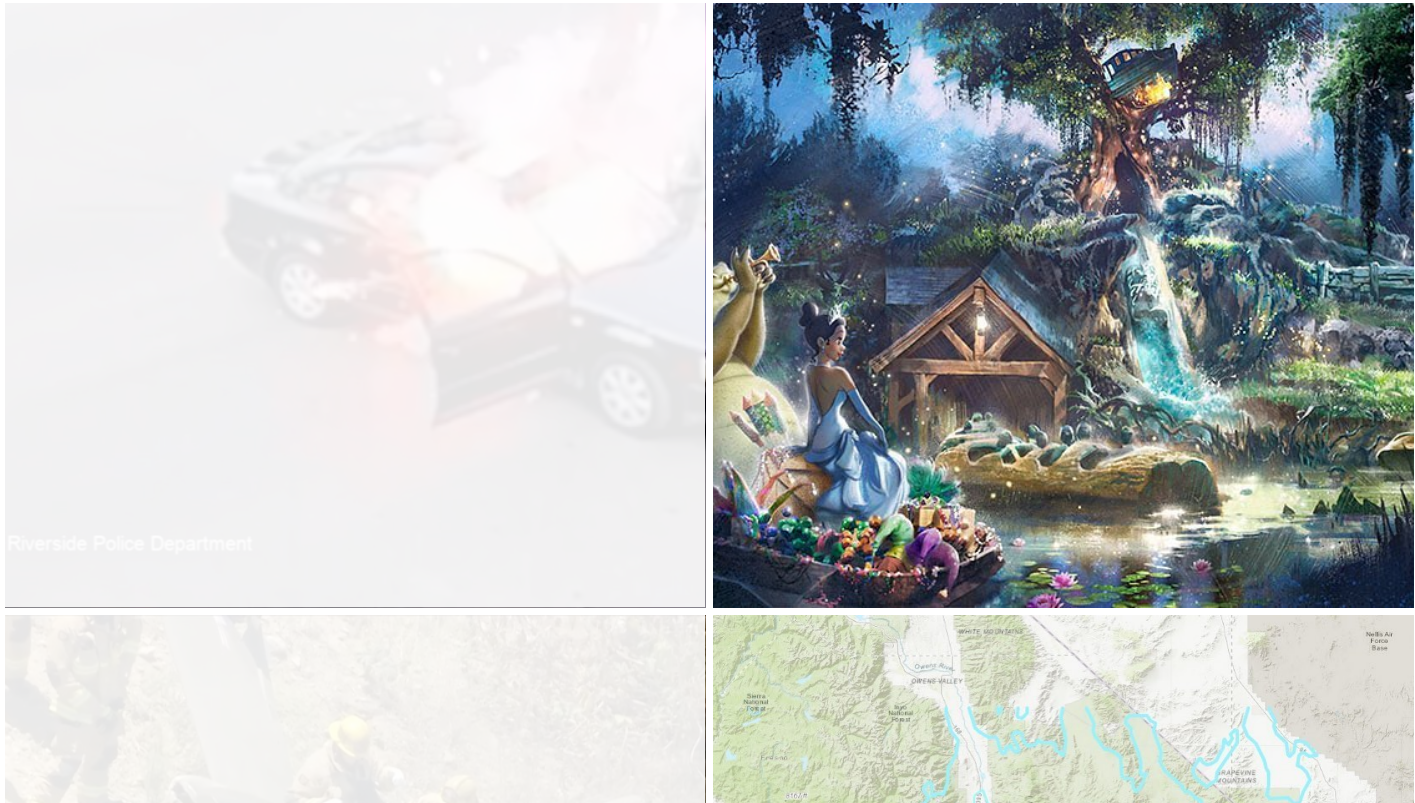


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Watch live: L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti is providing an update on the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic [ktla.com/news/local-new...](https://ktla.com/news/local-news/eric-garcetti-covid-19-update)

L.A. Mayor Garcetti holds coronavirus ...

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BREAKING: The city of Newport Beach will close its beaches for the Fourth of July after 2 lifeguards tested positive for COVID-19, officials announced Wednesday [ktla.com/news/local-](https://ktla.com/news/local-news/newport-beach-closes-beaches)

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BREAKING: The Newport Beach City Council voted in an emergency meeting Wednesday to shutter their shores after two lifeguards employed by the city tested positive for COVID-19.

The beaches will close at 10 p.m. on July 3 and reopen at 6 a.m. on July 5.



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