


Metro News



Metro “Big” Bus
Arrives, “Bigger”
Due Soon

Other stories:

- > Easier student passes
- > 200 more buses added
- > LA’s top ten ‘traffic busters’
- > East LA rail work continues



Metro[™]



This new Metro Rapid bus is five feet longer and seats six more passengers than a standard transit bus.



Artist Paul Rogers' illustration of the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension.

First Metro Rapid “Big” Buses Hit The Street

The first of 100 new extra-long Metro Buses with a sleek look, carbon fiber bodies and more passenger seats are now operating on some Metro Rapid lines.

Nicknamed “Compo Buses,” because the bodies are made of a lighter and stronger composition of fiberglass with carbon fiber reinforcing, the new buses are five feet longer and provide seating for 46 passengers – six more than a standard 40-foot bus.

Next up on the list of new buses for Metro will be the articulated version, which is so long it bends in the middle to make it around corners. Those buses are 60 feet long and have seating for 60 passengers. The first 60-footers will be on the street next year. [MN](#)

Eastside Extension Readies For Major Construction

Crews are locating underground utility lines and preparing staging areas for heavy equipment as major construction gets ready for the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension through East LA.

The six-mile stretch of rail line will extend the Metro Gold Line, running between Pasadena and downtown LA, from Union Station to Atlantic Boulevard in East LA.

It will include eight additional stations with stops at Little Tokyo/Arts District, Pico/Aliso, Mariachi Plaza, Soto Street, Indiana, Maravilla, East LA Civic Center and Atlantic.

A 1.8-mile segment running through a densely populated area in Boyle Heights will be constructed underground and feature two underground stations. The remainder of the system will be built at street level. [MN](#)

Metro Making It Easier For Students

Metro is working to cut the red tape for LA students to get discount bus and rail passes.

Seven Los Angeles Unified School District high schools have joined with Metro in a pilot program to streamline the application process for obtaining student identification cards. The ID cards allow students to buy a monthly Metro pass for just \$20.

The schools help students fill out the applications and forward them directly to Metro to speed the process. The program is expected to expand to other high schools in the district.

Metro is also considering doing away with the application process for elementary and junior high school students. Participating schools in that program would directly issue Metro student ID cards to their students.

Other programs in the works include having the student ID cards valid for two years instead of one and allowing students with ID cards to purchase Metro Day Passes at a reduced cost of \$1.50. [MN](#)

More Buses, More Service, More Metro

By the time June rolls around next year, there will be 9,310 more passenger seats available on Metro Local and Metro Rapid buses.

Metro has added 75 new buses in addition to 100 high-capacity 45-foot and 30 60-foot buses currently on order. With Metro now buying buses that have more capacity, they will have increased the number of seats in the Metro Bus fleet by 10 percent. [MN](#)



Metro CEO Roger Snoble presents the “Top Ten Traffic Busters” at the Mobility 21 transportation summit.

Top Ten ‘Traffic Busters’ Named At Transportation Summit

Local officials have presented their “Top Ten Traffic Busters” plan at the annual Mobility 21 transportation summit.

The plan includes bus and rail expansion, carpool lanes, street improvements and freight movement needed to keep up with anticipated growth and traffic in LA County.

Top Ten Traffic Busters:

- Extend the Alameda Corridor freight railroad east
- I-5 Regular and Carpool Lanes (I-605 to Orange County)
- I-10 Carpool Lanes (I-605 to Route 57)
- I-405 Northbound Carpool Lanes (I-10 to US-101)
- I-710 Corridor Improvement
- LAX Ground Access Improvements (Metro Green Line and FlyAway System)
- Metro Exposition Light Rail (Downtown LA to Santa Monica)
- Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension
- Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension (Pasadena to Montclair)
- Metro and Municipal Bus Expansion and Improvements/Metrolink Rail Expansion and Improvements [MN](#)



Better Safe Than Sorry; Report All Suspicious Packages

Metro continues to increase security efforts to ensure the safety of its passengers and system.

Patrons are urged to report any suspicious or unattended items or packages on buses and trains to Metro personnel or authorities.

Suspicion is based on the type and location of the package. Items left in out-of-the-way places, packages that match

something described in a threat, or something abandoned by someone quickly leaving the area should be reported.

Typically, most items left in open areas such as on seats or station platforms are simply forgotten.

Contact the Metro Sheriff at 1-888-950-SAFE or 323-563-5000. [MN](#)