

Metro News

Gas Prices Boost Metro Ridership

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Metro™



Red Line ridership increased 13 percent during the first quarter of 2006.



L.E.D. signs are the most recent safety features on the Blue Line.

Metro Ridership Soars Along With Gas Prices

Have you noticed more fellow passengers joining you on Metro during the first three months of 2006?

Metro Rail ridership increased more than 11 percent and the number of riders on buses grew 7 percent during the first quarter of the year.

The greatest increase was in Metro Red Line ridership during that period. Monthly passenger boardings were up more than 13 percent with 3.3 million average monthly riders for January, February and March. Metro Blue Line ridership increased almost 11 percent to more than 2 million monthly boardings.

Check Out Monthly Go Metro Specials Online

Keep up on Metro special events and rider discounts by checking monthly Go Metro Specials online.

Each month, there are bargains such as the \$3 off CD Chivas USA soccer tickets, 15% off purchases at 1.800.FLOWERS and 50% off on admission to the LA Home Show.

Find out more about Metro's discounts and deals at metro.net, under "Spotlight" and click on "This Month's Go Metro Specials."

New "TRAIN" Warnings Signs In Long Beach

Metro has installed new L.E.D. signs at left-turn lanes warning of approaching Blue Line trains on Long Beach Boulevard and Pacific Avenue in downtown Long Beach.

Other safety features along the route from Los Angeles include gates, median islands and lights cautioning pedestrians.

State Approves \$315 Million For Expo Line

The California Transportation Commission approved \$315 million in funding for construction of the 9-mile Exposition Light Rail Line from Downtown LA along Exposition Boulevard to Venice/Robertson boulevards in Culver City.

The Expo line is the newest extension of the 62-station Metro Rail system and will include approximately 10 stations.

A future second phase would extend the line to the City of Santa Monica. Find out more at metro.net/expo.

Sepulveda Boulevard Metro Rapid Debuts, Larger Buses And Service Added

Here are some highlights of Metro service improvements beginning June 25.

- > New Metro Rapid Line 734 will be serving Sepulveda Boulevard between Ventura Boulevard and the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station in the San Fernando Valley.
- > High-capacity 46-passenger buses are being added to the fleets on the Metro Rapid lines on Ventura Boulevard, Florence Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard.
- > New 60-foot-long articulated buses will be serving both the Wilshire Metro Rapid Line 720 and the Van Nuys Metro Rapid Line 761. The articulated buses provide seating for 57 passengers – 17 more than a standard bus.
- > Morning and afternoon rush hour service is being added to Line 484 and Line 490 between Pomona and Downtown LA.
- > All Wilshire Rapid Line 720 service will provide passengers a continuous ride in each direction between 5th & Colorado in Santa Monica and Commerce Center in the City of Commerce.
- > Metro Line 220 on Robertson Boulevard service will increase to every 40 minutes between Santa Monica Boulevard and San Vicente in West Hollywood and Venice and Culver boulevards in Culver City. It will connect with Culver City's new Line 7 from Venice and Culver Boulevards to Fisherman's Village in Marina del Rey. Both will operate Monday-Saturday, 6am-7pm.
- > Saturday service is being added on Line 166 between Chatsworth and North Hollywood.
- > Line 634 shuttle service will be offered weekdays between the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station and Mission College.

Summer Twilight Dance Series At Santa Monica Pier



Get ready to rock. The 22nd Annual Santa Monica Pier Twilight Dance Series begins June 29 and runs through August 31. Free outdoor concerts will be held on the Pier for ten Thursday evenings throughout

the summer featuring the best in rock, Reggae, Latin and folk.

For more information about the concerts, please visit twilightdance.org or call Santa Monica Pier information at 310.458.8900.

Get Discount At Long Beach Bayou Festival June 23-25

It's New Orleans at the beach with three nights and two days of Cajun, Zydeco and Blues at the Long Beach Bayou Festival June 23-25 at the Queen Mary Events Park.

The festival features its own French Quarter with Cajun and Creole cuisine, cultural arts and crafts vendors, a daily Mardi Gras Parade and evening concerts. Events begin Friday evening with N'Orleans at Night, with the festival running from 11:30am to 10:30pm Saturday and Sunday.

Admission is \$15 for an evening pass and \$25 for all day. Show your valid Metro pass or Metro Rail ticket and get \$5 off daily admission or \$2 off evening events.

For festival information, visit longbeachfestival.com.



Free Shakespeare Summer Series At Barnsdall Park

It's a repertory of *As You Like It* and *Hamlet* as the Independent Shakespeare Co. presents the third season of Free Shakespeare in Barnsdall Park in Hollywood beginning June 23 through August 13.

Performed on an intimate open-air stage on the Great Lawn of Barnsdall Park, the summer series runs Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings at 7:30pm. For more information, visit independentshakespeare.com or call 818.710.6306.

Barnsdall Park is located at 4800 Hollywood Boulevard within convenient walking distance from the Metro Rail Sunset/Vermont Station.

"Salute America" July 4th Event In Downtown

A reenactment of LA's first Fourth of July celebration in 1847 by the Fort Moore Garrison complete with cannon and musket fire highlights this year's Salute America event on Olvera Street in downtown LA.

The festival begins at 10:30am with the reenactment of the 1847 event by participants in period costumes and continues with a day-long series of live entertainment, food booths and early California exhibits, ending with an evening fireworks display.

Show your valid Metro pass or ticket and get a free soft drink with your lunch at El Paseo Restaurant on Olvera Street.



Save \$2 At Chinese Food Festival June 24-25

Have you eaten yet? Come to a colorful, aromatic, mouth-watering event of the best of LA's Chinatown at the Chinese Food Festival on Saturday, June 24 from noon to 8pm and Sunday, June 25 from 10:30am-6pm.

Enjoy the best dishes from Chinatown restaurants such as dim sum, Hong Kong sticky rice and homemade tofu. See cooking demonstrations featuring renowned local chefs, enjoy live entertainment and several cultural exhibits.

The street festival takes place near to the Metro Gold Line Chinatown Station at Broadway and College Street. Regular tickets prices, including food tasting, are \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and \$6 juniors. Festival info: chinesefoodfestivalla.com.

Save \$2 off adult general admission and \$1 off youth tickets by showing your valid Metro ticket or pass at festival entrance.