



THE BUS STOPS HERE - Northbound Pacific Coast Highway Station is one of two new bus stations opening Sunday along the Harbor Transitway. PHOTO BY JOSÉ UBALDO

Expanded Harbor Transitway Express Service Begins Oct. 29

(Oct. 27, 2000) The MTA will launch an expanded express bus service on Sunday, Oct. 29, that will dramatically increase passenger service and establish the Harbor Transitway as a major public transit corridor.

The new express operation is expected to increase passenger service by more than 18,000 hours annually— a major expansion that's in keeping with the extension of Metro Rail service to North Hollywood and the start of two Metro Rapid bus lines earlier this year.

The Harbor Transitway has always been considered an important linkage for the region, said operations planner Rod Goldman. "The new express service will give South Bay commuters a direct link to street service of local transit operators and the Metro Green Line," he said.

Two new stations

Caltrans constructed the Harbor Transitway and built eight bus stations in preparation for the expanded service. The express service will inaugurate the two new Pacific Coast Highway and Carson Street bus stations on Sunday.

The Harbor Transitway was completed in August, 1996. It runs along the median of the Harbor Freeway between Artesia Boulevard in Gardena north to Adams Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Additional ways to improve service for the Transitway stations are currently being examined, said Goldman, including discussions underway to coordinate regional service among local transit agencies. Harbor Transitway commuters are also served by Gardena and Torrance Transit and LADOT.

Getting the word out

Meanwhile, MTA is getting the word out to commuters. Two billboards along the Harbor Freeway will tout the lower fares, while print ads and on-board brochures will provide details of the new service, said Warren

Morse, deputy executive officer for Marketing and Customer Relations. In addition, a special mailer complete with a map of all Harbor Transitway express bus service will be delivered to 233,000 households in the service area on Nov. 14.

Thanks to a convergence of five MTA bus lines - 444, 445, 446, 447 and 550 - at the Harbor/105 Freeway station, service will be available on an average of every eight minutes for passengers commuting to and from downtown LA.

Metro Express Line 445 will operate every 30 minutes during peak hours and hourly during off-peak hours and weekends. The expanded service will run from 5 a.m. until 10 p.m., seven days a week.

Cash fares on all Transitway bus lines will be reduced to \$1.35 – no freeway zone charges will be in effect.

The MTA currently serves about 2,500 daily Transitway riders. For Metro Green Line passengers, expanded bus service will make the Transitway a viable alternative to the crowded Metro Blue Line.

[Back to MTA Report](#)