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## FlyAway Airport Shuttle to Serve LAX Direct from Union Station

- Agreement with Metro includes parking for 500 vehicles
- Free FlyAway rides to LAX, March 15 through March 31

By DAVE SOTERO

(March 15, 2006) A media event on Patsaouras Plaza, Wednesday morning, marked the debut of the FlyAway Airport Shuttle, a direct, nonstop service from Union Station to LAX.

Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) has a three-year agreement with Metro to operate FlyAway bus service out of Berth 9 on the transit plaza. The service will provide Metro Red Line, Gold Line and Metro Bus riders with ready access to FlyAway buses.



Flyaway Shuttle leaves from Berth 9 at Patsaouras Plaza. Photo by Dave Sotero.

Photo by Luis Inzunza.



"The FlyAway is a great concept," said Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, "because, while it gets people out of their cars, it also cuts air pollution and provides LAX passengers with a high-quality, dependable and low-cost ground transportation service."

FlyAway buses will run both ways between Union Station and LAX every 30 minutes on the hour and half-hour from 5 a.m. until 1 a.m. every weekday and

on weekends. The 20-mile ride costs \$3 one-way for adults, \$2 for children between 2 and 12 years, and free for children under 2 years.

Flyaway buses will travel from Union Station to LAX in 45 minutes or less using HOV lanes on the 110 and 105 Freeways. The service will mean a significant time savings over driving alone to the airport in rush-hour traffic.

**'Convenient and hassle-free'**

"Like our popular FlyAway service from San Fernando Valley," said Lydia H. Kennard, LAWA executive director, "we believe this new non-stop bus service... will make getting to and from LAX more convenient and hassle-free for air travelers."

Photo by Luis Inzunza.



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa leads ribbon-cutting ceremony, with help from Lydia H. Kennard, LAWA executive director, at right, and CEO Roger Snoble, at left. Photo by Luis Inzunza.

The Metro/LAX agreement includes long-term parking for 500 vehicles on the fourth level of the Gateway Center garage. A kiosk at the south end of the plaza near the FlyAway busstop will be staffed 24/7 to sell FlyAway tickets and provide information.

To encourage public transit use, from March 15 through March 31, riders presenting tickets or passes from public transit operators, including taxi receipts, can receive a free FlyAway roundtrip ticket.

"The introduction of FlyAway Airport Shuttle Service at Union Station, LA's major transportation hub, provides an invaluable new service option for Metro's transit customers," said CEO Roger Snoble. "The multitude of bus and rail connections at Union Station make the convenience of FlyAway service available to tens of thousands of daily transit riders."

More than 50,000 trips on Metro Bus and Rail lines, Amtrak and municipal transit operators are made each day through Union Station.