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First Dodger Stadium Express bus arrives to transport Dodger fans to season opener. More than 1,400 fans took advantage of the new service. *Photo: Gayle Anderson*

## Fans get on board for launch of Dodger Stadium Express

- **Win-Win Situation:** The Dodgers took a 9-5 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks at the home opener on Tuesday at Dodger Stadium and the Dodger Stadium Express scored 2,900 boardings on 68 trips between the ballpark and Union Station.

(April 13, 2010) Opening day at Dodger Stadium drew the usual large crowds but, today, more than 1,400 fans were transported to the Dodgers' home opener aboard the Dodger Stadium Express. Riders started lining up before 11 a.m., more than two hours before game time, reported Roman Alarcon, interim executive director, transportation.

The pre-game ridership, estimated to number more than 1,400 Dodger fans, filled 14 buses, two of which were 60-foot articulated buses from Division 10. The two articulated buses wrapped the transport and delivered the last two loads of passengers right at game time, said Contract Services Manager Shannon Anderson.

By game's end, the Dodger Stadium Express racked up some 2,900 boardings on 68 trips, reported Mike Greenwood, DEO, Operations. The express, operated by Southland Transit, one of Metro's contract services providers, provided 11 buses to transport fans leaving Dodger Stadium with Division 10 adding four 60-footers to manage the exodus.

"The crowds were gone within 30 minutes of the last out, but we operated several more trips over the next 30 minutes to carry stragglers," said Greenwood.



All aboard for Dodgertown: Fans board parade of steadily arriving buses to get to Dodger Stadium in plenty of time for the season opener. *Photos: Luis Inzunza*



From now on through to the end of baseball season, Dodger fans will be able to use their game ticket to ride the Dodger Stadium Express to and from Union Station. The service leaves Union Station every 10 minutes, starting 90 minutes before game time for all home games.

Schedulers estimate that the service will ordinarily use six to nine buses to carry riders to and from regular home games.

The Dodger Stadium Express is a joint demonstration project made possible by Clean Transportation Funding from the Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) and the support of Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, who led the efforts to fund the project.

The service was promoted heavily by Metro through on-board materials, notices in Metro Briefs ads and on radio, Transit TV, the website and through the media, said Warren Morse, deputy executive officer in charge of marketing. The Dodgers are co-marketing the service through in-stadium announcements and e-blasts to ticket holders, he said.

KCAL Channel 9 covered the launch of the Dodger Stadium Express and interviewed many fans taking the express service to the season opener, including an appreciative contingent from Ojai who traveled to Union Station via Amtrak. The segment will be included in KCAL's pre-game show on Friday night.

***-- from staff reports***

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