



NEWS

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MTA HOPEFUL OF AVERTING STRIKE AS CONTRACT TALKS PROGRESS; ADS WILL ADVISE CUSTOMERS OF CONTINGENCY SERVICE PLAN

While optimistic that contracts with its union workers will soon be renewed without a work stoppage, the MTA will take out ads in local newspapers June 24 and June 26 to alert its customers and others about contingency Metro Bus and Metro Rail service that would be offered if there is a strike.

Contracts between the MTA and its three major labor unions representing bus and train operators, mechanics, and clerical staff expire at midnight Monday, June 30.

“Progress is being made at the bargaining table,” said MTA Interim CEO Linda Bohlinger. “The MTA remains hopeful that a strike can be averted.”

The purpose of the ads is to alert the public that MTA and union officials are working to reach new contract agreements before the end of the month, and that the MTA has a contingency plan in place to ensure Metro Bus and Metro Rail operations will continue in the event of a strike.

The negotiations are part of MTA’s ongoing efforts to serve its customers better, operate more competitively, and use public funds more efficiently.

While determined to avoid a work stoppage, Bohlinger said the MTA has a responsibility to its customers to deploy contingency service on key Metro bus lines as well the Metro Red, Blue and Green rail lines. Limited service will operate daily from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. The contingency service will be ready as early as July 1 if necessary.

The ads will urge the public to check media reports or call 1-800-COMMUTE for schedule or route changes that will occur if there is a work stoppage. MTA also will give service updates on its Internet site at www.mta.net.

The MTA carries an estimated 1.2 million boarding passengers each weekday in a 1,400 square mile service area throughout Los Angeles County.