



**GATEWAY CITIES GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
JULY 8, 2004**

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR DECEMBER 2004 SERVICE CHANGES

**ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE AND HEARING DATE**

BACKGROUND

As part of the upcoming December Shake-up staff proposes to implement a number of service modifications to bus lines operating within the Gateway Cities sector. Some of these service modifications are considered to be major as defined by federal public hearing guidelines and MTA policy. As such, the Governance Council is required to hold public hearings for changes of this magnitude, and to solicit and consider public input prior to approving them.

The following sections of this report identify the affected bus lines to undergo public review, the type of modification under consideration, and a justification why the change is necessary. Also discussed is the timeline for the public hearing process, which details the steps to be undertaken by staff over the next few months, including a date when the governance council will act on this matter.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

The proposed changes in bus service are estimated to be cost neutral. Resources from unproductive or duplicated lines are proposed to be fully reinvested in other lines to address unmet needs, expand travel opportunities, and provide new incentives to use public transit. Table 1 details the reallocation of revenue hours. Table 2 shows the impact on equipment as a result of the proposed changes in bus service.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The proposed service modifications are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Long Range Plan and the Consent Decree. Overall, they provide both improvements in public access to transit as well as improvements in operating efficiency.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Attachment A shows the Notice of Public Hearing. The public hearing is scheduled to be held in the City of Downey next month at The Gas Company, as noted. Described in the public hearing notice are proposed service modifications to five existing bus lines the Gateway Sector is responsible for operating.

Four of these services are recommended to have their routes, schedules, or stops modified to make them more effective. A fifth line is proposed for cancellation. The following summarizes the proposals under consideration:

Line 265

New weekend service would be operated from Lakewood to Pico Rivera, including later evening service on weekdays. This would enhance travel opportunities and connections for people traveling along Paramount Blvd and Whittier Blvd.

Line 270

Modified route would serve Whittier College and the Norwalk-Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station. This line would also provide new service on south Greenleaf Ave and Shoemaker Rd.

Line 275

The change would provide new service on Broadway, Mulberry Dr and Magnolia Ave in the Whittier-Santa Fe Springs area.

Line 362

Proposed to be rerouted to serve the Santa Fe Springs-Norwalk Metrolink Station. This line is also proposed to expand its limited-stop area to increase speed and reduce commute time for riders.

Line 576

The remaining line in the program, existing Line 576, is proposed for cancellation due to excessive service duplication. Although route duplication may be convenient for some riders because it provides them with multiple travel options, it results in an inefficient use of public funds needed to subsidize the bus system.

Estimated passenger impacts for each line are shown in Table 3. In most cases, affected riders will maintain their current travel patterns since they will have access to either the same line they now ride, or other bus lines that operate along the affected route segments. Riders of Line 576, for example, can still travel between Vernon and Pacific Palisades by riding new rapid bus Line 705 and transferring to Line 2.

Similarly, affected riders of Line 270 will have access to replacement service provided by Norwalk Line 1 along Orr and Day Road-Pioneer Ave, and along Broadway by MTA Line 275.

Maps illustrating the proposed routings for each of the proposals under consideration are contained in Attachment B

PUBLIC HEARING TIMELINE

Described below is the public hearing timeline and associated milestones leading to the implementation of approved service changes later this year. Key dates are highlighted for the reader.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
July 9	Council receives staff report on public hearing for August 2004
July 11	Initial publication of legal notice in major metropolitan newspaper
July 12-Aug 11	Subsequent notification to cities, agencies, organizations and stakeholders
Aug 1-12	Special rider notices describing proposals put on buses systemwide
Aug 12	Gateway Governance Council conducts public hearing
Aug 13-31	Preparation of final staff report with findings/recommendations
Sept 9	Council acts on staff recommendations
Sept 10	MTA news release distributed describing approved changes
Nov 11	Council receives staff update on December Shakeup Program
Nov 19	Cities, agencies, organizations and stakeholders receive final written notice of approved service changes
Dec 1	Rider notices placed on all buses describing approved changes
Dec 19	Implement approved service changes.

NEXT STEPS

Staff proposes to publish the public hearing notice in the Los Angeles Times on Sunday, July 11, 2004. Publication of the legal notice will officially begin the public hearing process. Additional notification of the public hearing will follow later in the month in other local and foreign language newspapers, and to specific stakeholders as shown in the timeline above.

ATTACHMENT

- A. [Public Hearing Notice](#)
- B. Line Maps
- C. [Impacts](#)

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