

# GATEWAY CITES GOVERNANCE COUNCIL DECEMBER 14, 2006

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 2007 SERVICE CHANGES

ACTION: APPROVE PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC

HEARING NOTICE FOR POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS TO GATEWAY

**CITIES BUS LINES** 

#### **BACKGROUND**

As part of the upcoming June 2007 Shake-up, staff proposes to implement several service modifications to bus lines operating within the Gateway Cities sector. Some of these 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, and to solicit and consider public input prior to approving changes of this magnitude

The following sections of this report identify the affected bus lines and the type of service modification to undergo public review. 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 is recommended to act on this matter.

#### **IMPACT ON BUDGET**

The final service plan to be adopted by the Governance Council in March of next year will be addressed at that meeting, and consist of a yet to be defined subset of service proposals listed in the attached draft service plan. Resources from unproductive or duplicated lines are proposed to be fully reinvested in other bus lines to address unmet needs, expand travel opportunities, and provide new incentives to use public transit.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

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

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Attachment A shows the draft service plan proposed for implementation in June 2007. The plan includes six existing bus lines whose routes and/or schedules are proposed to be modified in some way to make them more effective. The draft plan also calls for the establishment of one new rapid bus line, and the cancellation of one limited stop line associated with the start-up of rapid service.

It is important to note that the service proposals listed here will be combined with proposals from the other four service sectors into one public hearing notice. The combined notice will list the respective hearing dates, times and locations for each service sector. The legal notice is recommended to be published on **Sunday, January 7, 2007** in the Los Angeles Times. Following the initial printing, the notice will be reprinted in newspapers throughout Los Angeles County, including foreign language newspapers. Notice will also be placed on all MTA buses and trains informing riders of the proposed changes to the bus system, and how they can comment on them.

Staff recommends the Gateway Cities Governance Council hold a public hearing to receive community input on these proposals on **Thursday, February 8, 2007**. The hearing is proposed to be held at The Gas Company in the City of Downey following the regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Governance Council. The suggested time to conduct the public hearing is 5 pm.

In addition to the February 8 public hearing date, staff was directed last month by the Governance Council to investigate the feasibility of holding a joint public hearing on a Saturday involving all or some of the service sectors. Some interest was expressed to consider this option in the future, however, it is not recommended at this time due to various coordination and logistical issues that would need to worked out. Should the Gateway Cities Governance Council wish to hold a Saturday public hearing it would need to be scheduled no later than February 10 so as not to comprise the timeline needed to implement the June 2007 service changes.

In general, the proposed service changes proposed for the Gateway Cities Sector will affect few riders overall. Most existing riders will maintain their current travel patterns since they will have continued access to either the bus line they now ride, or to other bus lines that operate along the affected route segments. The proposed new Rapid Bus Line 760 will improve travel for current riders, and encourage new ridership growth by providing high speed travel along corridors where none exists today. Staff plans to return to the Governance Council in January with more details of the service proposals to be discussed at the February public hearing.

#### PUBLIC HEARING TIMELINE

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

<u>Date</u>	Event/Activity	
Dec 14	Council receives staff report requesting public hearing on February 8, 2007 along with preliminary review of service proposals for June 2007.	
Jan 7	Initial legal notice published in major metropolitan newspaper	
Jan 11	Council receives additional details on service proposals for June	
Jan 7- Feb 6	Formal notification to cities, agencies, organizations and stakeholders	
Jan 23-Feb 6	Special rider notices describing proposals placed on buses systemwide	
Feb 8	Gateway Governance Council conducts public hearing	
Feb 15–28	Preparation of final staff report detailing findings and recommendations	
March 8	Council acts on staff recommendations	
March 16	MTA news release announcing approved service modifications	
May 10	Council receives staff update on June Shakeup Program	
May 17	Cities, agencies, organizations and stakeholders receive final written notice of approved changes	
June 11	Rider notices placed on all buses describing approved changes	
June 24	Implement approved service changes.	

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Staff proposes to publish the public hearing notice in the Los Angeles Times on Sunday, January 7, 2007. Publication of the legal notice will officially begin the public hearing process. Additional notification of the public hearings 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. Proposed June 2007 Service Modifications
- B. Line Maps

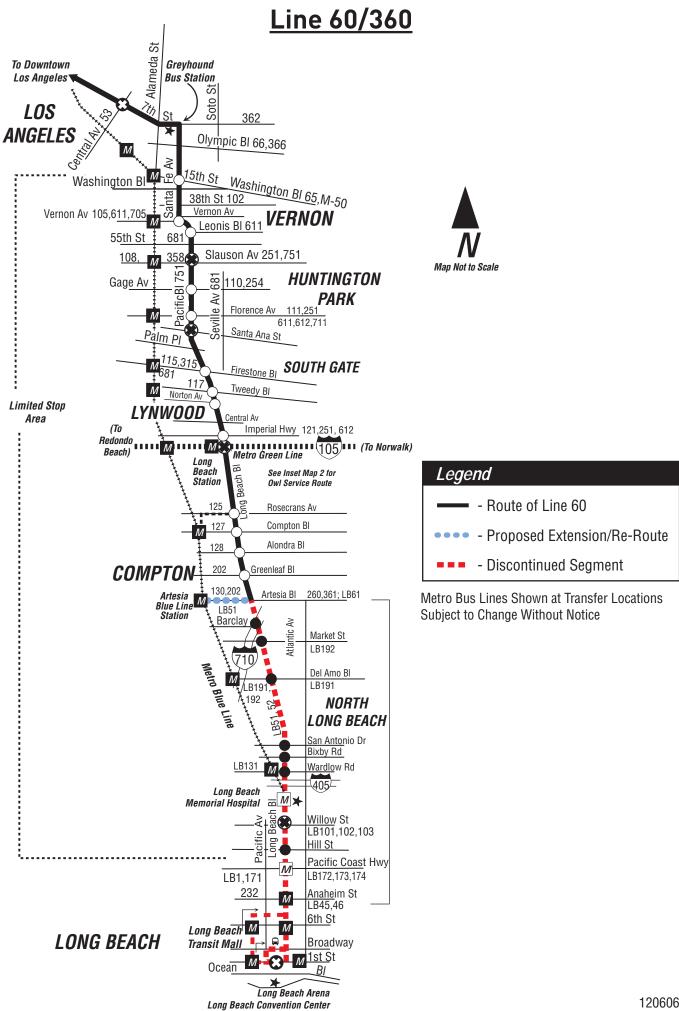
Prepared by: Alex Clifford, General Manager, Gateway Cities Sector

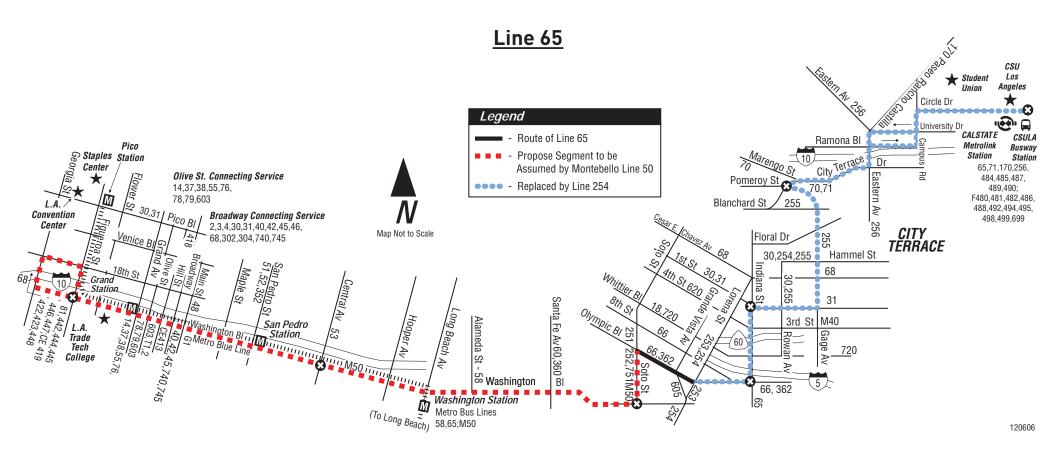
Hassan Fakhro, Service Development Manager

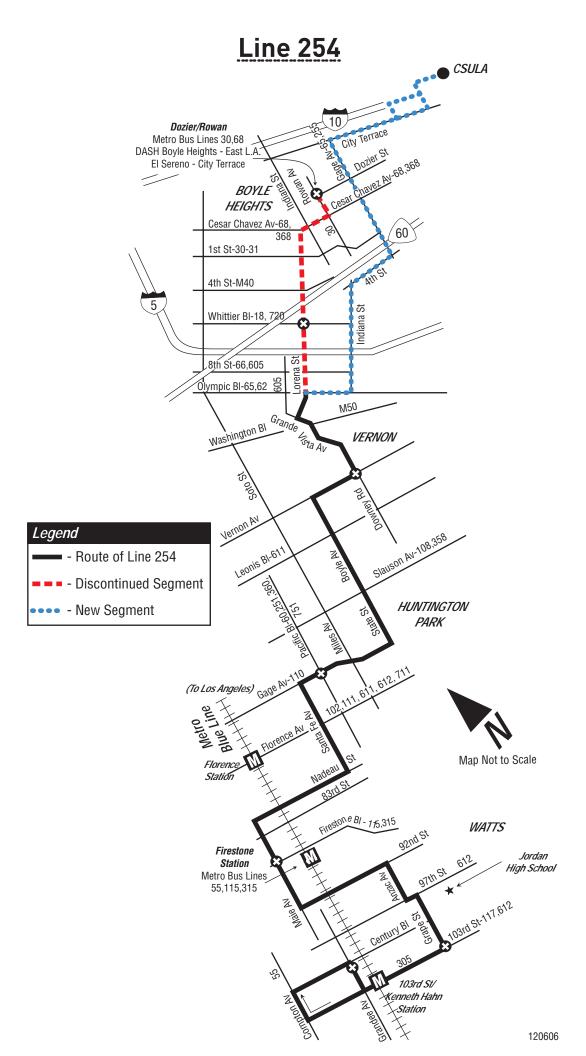
Michael Sieckert, Planning Manager

## ATTACHMENT A PROPOSED JUNE 2007 ROUTE CHANGES REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARINGS

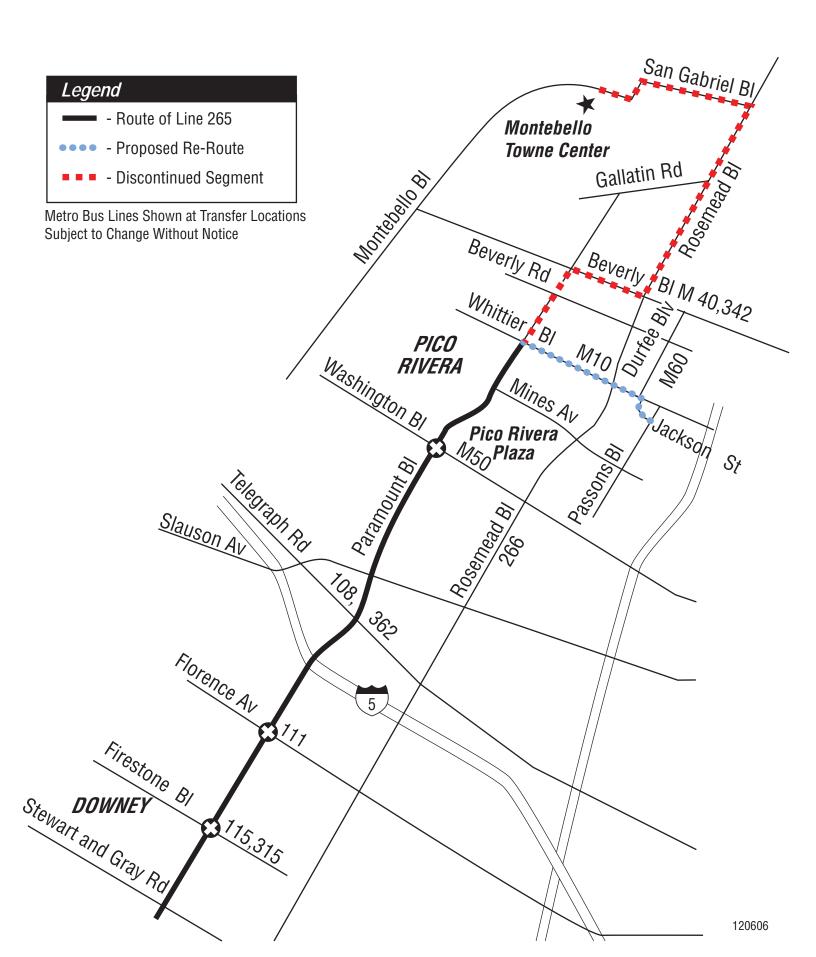
LINE	PROPOSED SERVICE MODIFICATION	ISSUES TO CONSIDER
60/360	Service to be restructured as part of operation of new Rapid Bus Line 760. Line 60 to operate between Artesia Blue Line Station and downtown Los Angeles. No change in the route in downtown Los Angeles. Limited Line 360 discontinued.	Coordination with Long Beach Transit on schedules, security, fares, transfers and Owl Service operation.
65	Cancel line due to excessive duplication. Eastern segment to be replaced by extending Line 254 over affected segment to CSLA; western segment to be replaced by Montebello Line 50.	Consider Montebello as alternative service provider along Washington BI and Soto St. Replacement service on Sunday.
254	Modify nothern route to take over segment of Line 65 from 1st St to Cal State LA. Consider serving the Indiana Gold Line Station in the future. Consider adding Sunday service.	Replacement service on Sunday. Coordination with Montebello.
265	Discontinue route between Montebello Mall and Pico Rivera due to low productivity. Northern route to end in Pico Rivera at Washington BI and Durfee Rd. Increase peak hour headways on weekdays to every 30 minutes	Advise Montebello of the pending change
275	Discontinue route due to low productivity.	Consider Norwalk Transit as possible alternative provider
577X	Extend route to serve the Long Beach Transit Mall. Service proposed to operate in limited-stop mode via 7th St, Atlantic Ave and 1st St. Eliminate night service after 8 pm and consider midday reductions due to low ridership.	Extension recommended in Metro Connections. Long Beach Transit advised of proposal and MTA is awaiting feedback.
760	New Rapid Bus line to operate over route of local Line 60 seven days a week. South terminal to be established at the Artesia Blue Line Station.	Same comment as Line 60/360







**Line 265** 

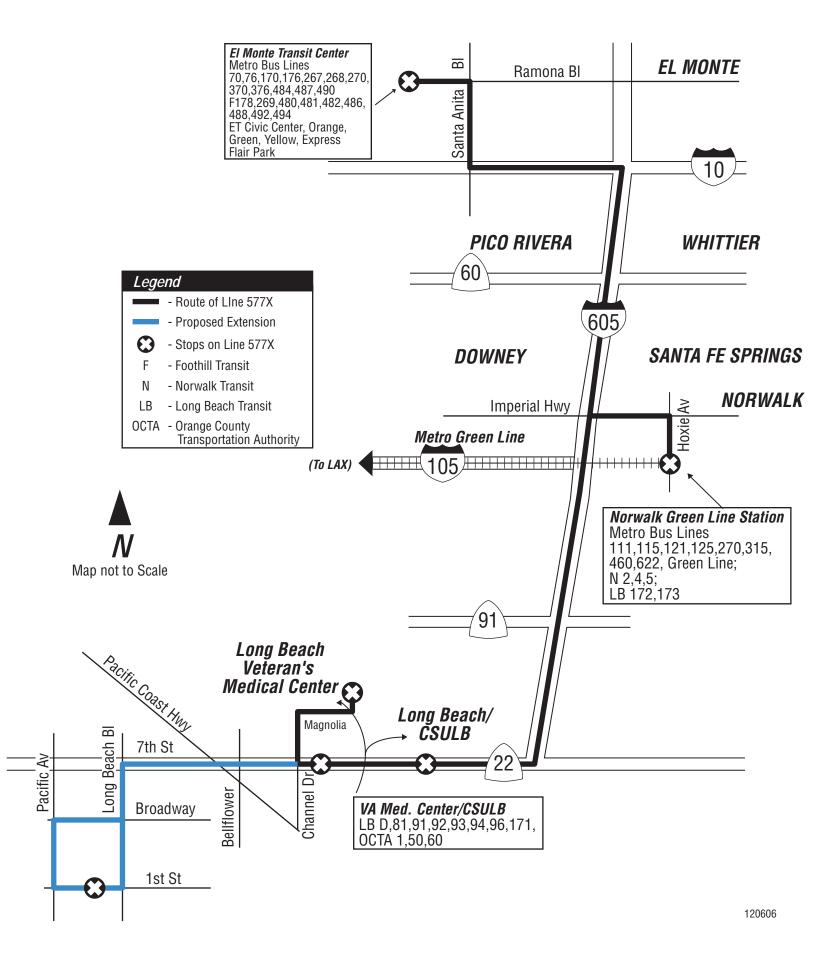


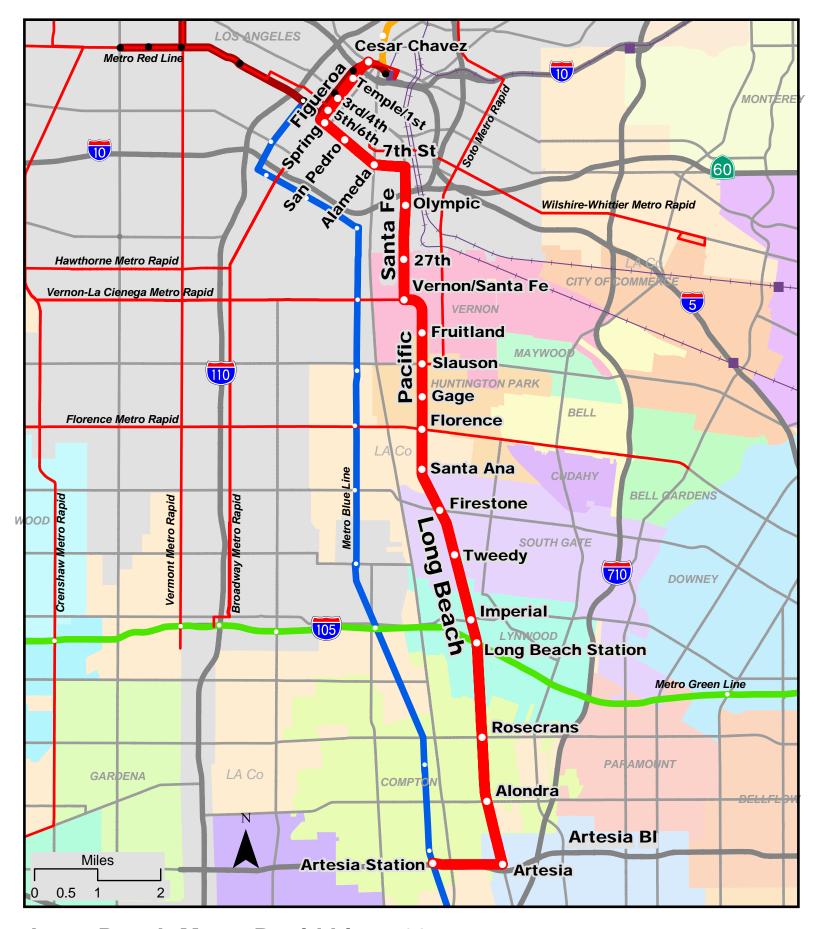
Line 275 Pickering Av Comstock Av Greenleaf Av **Bright Av** Painter Av WHITTIER Philadelphia St Whittier ★ College M10,50 Penn St Mar Vista St Whittier Map Not to Scale La Cuarta St Historic Depot Legend Whittier BI M10 - Current Route Proposed for Cancellation The Quad los Nietos at Whittier Norwalk Bl Santa Fe Springs Plaza Telegraph Rd SANTA FE SPRINGS Florence Av Telegraph Rd Carmenita Rd Shoemaker 605 Santa Fe Springs Mall Leffingwell Rd Imperial Hwy N4 Firestone BI Mirada West I-605/I-105 Station Valley View Av Center MIRADA NORWALK Rosecrans Av 460 **N5** Holiday Inn Gateway Plaza 5 **Excelsior Dr** Studebaker Rd Residence Inn 128 Alondra Bl **CERRI** Carmenita Rd \* Cerritos College Marquardt **★** 605 166th St Cerritos Corporate Yard Artesia Bl Los— Cerritos Center Los Cerritos Center Metro Bus Lines 183rd <sub>I</sub> St 62,130,275;LB172, 184th St 173,192;N2;OCTA30 187th St South St Orangethorpe Av LB173 Norwalk BI  $\overline{\mathbf{B}}$ 62 **Bloomfield Av** Shoemaker Av OCTA30 Sţ Gridley | Pioneer

Cerritos Town Center

120606

### **Line 577**





Long Beach Metro Rapid Line 760

**Effective June 2007** 



Rapid