

**METRO SAN FERNANDO VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
DECEMBER 5, 2007**

**SUBJECT: ESTABLISH FEBRUARY 6, 2008 AS PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO
CONSIDER PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES FOR JUNE 2008**

ACTION: APPROVE

RECOMMENDATION

Approve staff's recommendation to hold a public hearing on February 6, 2008, 6:30 p.m. at the Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center. The purpose of the hearing is to consider proposed service changes for June 2008 or later.

BACKGROUND

At the November 7, 2007 meeting, Ed Clifford, Director of Countywide Planning and Development, updated the Governance Council on the status of Metro Connections Service Restructuring Program. The presentation included an overview of major service change objectives that must be met in the June 2008 program. The targeted objectives are to complete rapid bus expansion, restructure downtown service, improve schedule efficiencies, and improve poorly performing lines.

To complete system-wide rapid bus expansion, five new rapid lines are proposed to be implemented by June 2008 and three existing rapid lines are proposed to be improved to bring them in conformance with span and frequency of service requirements. These changes comprise the remaining elements of the New Service Plan for rapid bus expansion. New and improved rapid services are to be funded through reallocating existing resources. Metro Connections also includes a downtown restructuring plan to shorten selected lines at the perimeter of the central business district to reduce service duplication.

In June 2008, system-wide bus service will be reduced by 215,000 hours annually as part of an ongoing effort to improve operating efficiency. This is to be achieved by analyzing automatic passenger counting data to identify and eliminate underutilized trips and adjust service frequencies. An additional 142,000 to 185,000 annual revenue service hours are to be reduced by canceling or restructuring some of the agency's 25 poorest performing lines and restructuring downtown service. Service efficiencies on other lines will also be evaluated to ensure that Metro's budgetary goals are met.

The Metro San Fernando Valley Sector will be required to implement two new rapid lines and will consider canceling or reducing service on four lines that are among the poorest performing lines in the system. In addition, the sector will consider canceling other line segments or reducing service in time periods where excess capacity has been identified. Three San Fernando Valley lines will be considered for downtown restructuring. The exact reduction in services hours has not yet been determined.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Proposed service modifications are consistent with the New Service Plan goals and objectives which are to ensure a balanced budget.

DRAFT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The attached list of sixteen Metro San Fernando Valley lines will be included in consolidated Notice of Public Hearing for all sectors. These changes support the major objectives of Metro Connections Service Restructuring Program for June 2008.

In compliance with the New Service Plan, new Rapid Lines 724 and 794 are proposed to be implemented and resources reallocated from local lines 94, 224 and 394 as described below.

- **Line 94 - Downtown LA-Sun Valley via San Fernando Rd**
Proposed extension of northern terminal from San Fernando Rd. and Lankershim to Olive View Hospital to replace canceled segment of Line 394. This proposal will reinstate the former route of Line 94.
- **Line 224 Sylmar-Universal City Sta via Fernando Rd, Lankershim Bl**
Proposed reallocation of selected trips to new Rapid Line 724.
- **Line 394 Downtown LA-Sylmar Sta via San Fernando Rd (Branch route of Line 94)**
Proposed cancellation of entire line and reallocation of trips to New Line 794 and restructured Line 94; Segment between Sun Valley and Sylmar Station proposed to be replaced by an extension of local service on Line 94.
- **New Line 724 Sylmar Sta-North Hollywood Sta via San Fernando Rd, Lankershim Bl**
Proposed establishment of new Rapid operating between Sylmar Station and North Hollywood Station on weekdays only via San Fernando Road and Lankershim Boulevard.

- **New Line 794 San Fernando Rd. Metro Rapid**

- **Option 1 from Downtown LA to Burbank via Brand Bl**

- Proposed establishment of new Rapid line operating between Downtown LA and Downtown Burbank on weekdays only, primarily via San Fernando Road and Brand Boulevard.

- **Option 2 from Downtown LA to Sun Valley via San Fernando Rd**

- Proposed establishment of new Rapid line operating between Downtown LA and Sun Valley on weekdays only, primarily via San Fernando Road.

- **Downtown Route Restructuring of Line 94 and New Line 794**

- Proposed shortening of southbound route at Vignes Street and Cesar Chavez Avenue near Union Station as part of Metro Connections downtown restructuring.

In accordance with Metro Connections, proposed service efficiency will be achieved primarily by eliminating underutilized trips. Additional service efficiencies will be achieved by canceling, restructuring or reducing service on low productivity lines/line segments, restructuring a downtown route or breaking a line in two as described below.

- **Line 92 Downtown LA-Burbank Sta via Glendale Av, Glenoaks Bl**

- Proposed shortening of southbound route at Vignes Street and Cesar Chavez Avenue near Union Station as part of Metro Connections downtown restructuring.

- **Line 96 Downtown LA-Sherman Oaks via LA Zoo, Riverside Dr**

- Proposed reduction in service frequency to improve productivity.

- **Line 154 Tarzana-Burbank Sta via Oxnard St, Burbank Bl**

- Proposed cancellation of entire line due to low productivity. This line is among the 25 poorest performing services.

- **Line 155 Universal City Sta-Burbank Sta via Riverside Dr, Alameda Av**

- Proposed cancellation of entire line due to low productivity. This line is among the 25 poorest performing services.

- **Line 156 Van Nuys-North Hollywood-Hollywood**

- Proposed reduction in service frequency to improve productivity. This line is among the 25 poorest performing services. No change in Line 656 owl service.

- **Line 163 West Hills-Hollywood via Sherman Way, Hollywood Way**
Proposed restructuring of service into two separate lines with break occurring at Vineland Avenue and San Fernando Road; Sherman Way segment to remain as Line 163 and Hollywood Way segment to operate as new Line 222. No change in route to Line 363.
- **Line 168 Chatsworth Sta-San Fernando via Lassen St-Paxton St**
Proposed cancellation of entire line due to low productivity. This line is among the 25 poorest performing services.
- **183 Sherman Oaks-Glendale via Magnolia Bl**
Proposed cancellation of segment operating between downtown Burbank and Glendale Station due to low productivity and service duplication.
- **New Line 222 Sun Valley-Hollywood via Hollywood Way, Barham Bl**
Proposed establishment of new line to replace canceled segment of Line 163 between Sun Valley and Hollywood; Proposed service frequency reduction.
- **Line 237 Encino-Sherman Oaks via Balboa Bl, Woodley Av**
Proposed cancellation of weekday midday service along Woodley Avenue.
- **Line 634 Sylmar Sta-Mission College via Hubbard St**
Proposed cancellation of entire line due to low productivity and service duplication.

NEXT STEPS

The hearing dates and service changes for all five sectors will be consolidated and included in the final Notice of Public Hearing. The Notice is scheduled to be published in the Los Angeles Times on Sunday, January 6, 2008. Additional public hearing notification will follow in other local and foreign language newspapers later in the month.

ATTACHMENT

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