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Blue Line Refurbishment Work Set for Downtown Long Beach

Metro will close four Blue Line Stations in downtown Long Beach for station and track improvement work as part of the Blue Line Refurbishment project, beginning Saturday, September 20, 2014 and continuing through Sunday October 19, 2014. 1st Street, 5th Street, Pacific Avenue and Downtown Long Beach stations will be closed to facilitate the replacement of rail and the installation of a new track switch, repainting, installation of new tile and lighting, in addition to the extension of canopies at three of the stations. Closing stations simultaneously allows work crews to complete several improvements at the targeted locations all at once, while minimizing further disruption to patrons throughout the project. Once the work at these stations is complete, Metro forces will move to Anaheim Station and continue north progressively to complete refurbishing stations along the entire line. Throughout the closure, a free bus shuttle will link the four closed stations with Anaheim Street Station. Shuttles will run at the same Blue Line service intervals, meeting trains for transfers. Train service between Los Angeles from Anaheim Station will run according to the normal schedules. Additionally, 1st Street will be closed from Long Beach Boulevard to Pacific Avenue during construction. All buses servicing the Long Beach Transit Gallery will detour to Ocean Boulevard during the closure. Pedestrian and bicycle access on 1st Street will remain open. To ensure public awareness, Metro has issued a [news release](#), posted a [story](#) on The Source, issued [service advisories](#), posted tweets, recorded station announcements, and has printed signs directing patrons to shuttle services during the closure. For more information about work being done on the Metro Blue Line, please click [here](#).

Drivers Diverted to ExpressLanes and Charged Fee on August 18 Will Receive a Refund

On August 18, a system error occurred and toll violations were sent out to those redirected onto the ExpressLanes by CHP and LAPD after an incident (shooting) on the

Harbor Freeway. Notices were received late last week.

Those who received the violation are being contacted and those who have already paid will receive a full refund. Metro has also posted information at metroexpresslanes.net advising motorists who used the lanes during the time of the incident that they will not be charged a toll or any violation penalties.

As part of the ExpressLanes Board adopted toll policy, if there is an incident that requires law enforcement to direct traffic into the ExpressLanes, motorists are not charged a toll during the time of the incident nor are violation notices issued. Metro is working closely with Xerox to implement additional safeguards to ensure this doesn't occur again. Stories on the incident ran last night.

Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project Construction Notices

As part of the construction of the Crenshaw/LAX Line, work crews will conduct three major operations this weekend, September 19, 2014 through September 21, 2014. Crenshaw Boulevard will be closed at the location of each of the future underground stations:

Full closure of Crenshaw Boulevard at the Expo Station Area

- Crenshaw Boulevard will be closed between Exposition and Coliseum Street from 9:00 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 19, through 6:00 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 21
- Rodeo Road will be open during the weekend operation

Leimert Park Station Construction

- A traffic reconfiguration will be implemented between Vernon Avenue and Stocker Street to begin construction of the Leimert Park station from 9:00 p.m. Friday, September 19, 2014 through Saturday, September 20, 2014
- After the completion of the work, two lanes of traffic will remain open in each direction during construction

MLK Station Area Construction

- A traffic reconfiguration between 39th St. and 43rd St. will be implemented to support Stage B construction of the MLK Station from 9:00 p.m. Saturday, September 20, 2014 through early Sunday, September 21, 2014
- After the completion of the work, two lanes of traffic will remain open in each direction during construction and the left turn lanes on Crenshaw Bl will be restored

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