MTA Responding to Demand for More Bicycle Spaces at Metro Rail Stations



Bike rack at the Marine Avenue station on the Metro Green Line. Bike locker can be seen in the background.

(November 17) In response to the rising demand for secure bicycle spaces at Metro Rail stations, the MTA will increase by 34 percent the number of bike rack and locker spaces available to commuters who use Metro Rail lines.

Currently, there are 288 bike rack spaces and 152 bike locker spaces -- a

total of 440 spaces at various Metro Rail stations. By Feb. 1, says Jesse Simon, the transportation planning manager who heads the MTA's Cycle Express program, the agency will have added 110 bike rack spaces and 38 more locker spaces for a total of 588.

The MTA's effort to provide more bike racks and lockers at Metro Rail stations parallels the move to equip the entire Metro Bus fleet with fold-up bicycle racks. The agency is recommending Board approval for the purchase of 550 bus-mounted racks. Racks already have been installed on 1,400 of the 2,200 Metro Buses. (Click here for story on bus bike racks.)

Some Metro Rail stations have had waiting lists for bike space, "but, now we're adjusting to the demand, " Simon says. Among stations with the highest demand are Lakewood (22 spaces) and Norwalk (24 spaces) on the Metro Green Line. Lakewood will get 24 more spaces and Norwalk will get 18.

All the new bike racks will have a high-security rating with heavy bars and a lock cage that is bolt-cutter proof. Cyclists will not need to use their own cables or chains to secure their bicycles. Each new locker will hold two bikes in separate locked spaces. (Click here to read more about security: He Rode In...)

Cyclists may use the bike racks on a first-come basis. Rental for locker space is \$10 for three months, \$15 for six months or \$25 a year. To rent a locker space, bikers should contact the MTA's 1-800-COMMUTE information line.

Here's a look at Metro Rail bike racks and locker spaces:

Metro Blue Line		Metro Green Line		Metro Red Line	
BIKE RACKS	62	BIKE RACKS	98	BIKE RACKS	128
adding	32	adding	72	adding	6
LOCKERS	44	LOCKERS	60	LOCKERS	48
adding	16	adding	4	adding	18
TOTAL 154		TOTAL 234		TOTAL 200	

GRAND TOTAL: 588 BIKE SPACES

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