

RAPID ROUTES
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WILSHIRE/WHITTIER



VENTURA METRO



DEMONSTRATION
ROUTES



PROPOSED
PHASES

Debut Set June 24

All Elements Coming Together in Preparation for Metro Rapid Service

(May 30) With four weeks to go before its debut, June 24, elements of the MTA's Metro Rapid bus program are quickly coming together.

Computer control equipment will be installed in the MTA's Bus Operations Center this week, said BOC Manager Tom Jasmin. Fiber optics cables were installed last week to link the MTA's new Metro Rapid operations control center and the LADOT's Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control (ATSAC) facility at City Hall.

The ATSAC computer system will provide the MTA with a real-time display of Metro Rapid bus movements in the two transit corridors. Testing of buses and signal priority systems has been conducted since May 8 in the Wilshire/Whittier and Ventura Boulevard corridors.

See
metro.net
April 10
"Fiber
Optics Line
with
LADO."is
Key..."

TOS training can begin

With the Metro Rapid operations control center activated, the MTA can begin training transit operations supervisors to monitor and direct Metro Rapid service. To ensure on-time performance and keep buses properly sequenced throughout the day, the TOSs can maintain constant contact with Metro Rapid operators via a special radio

network.

"Driving a Metro Rapid bus will be a different mindset for operators, and that's what we've told them," said Jasmin. "They'll have to be aware at certain locations that you have to look for your leader."

A former bus operator, himself, Jasmin believes that, with experience, Metro Rapid operators soon will learn to maintain the proper sequence between buses without coaching from the operations control center.

A "pre-revenue" period is scheduled to begin at least two weeks prior to the start of service. Initially, the express bus service is expected to operate from 5 a.m. until about 11:30 p.m.

Peak travel time service

During the peak hour of peak travel times, some 55 buses will be in operation on the 26-mile Wilshire/Whittier route and as many as 20 will be running on the 16-mile Ventura Boulevard line, according to Rex Gephart, Metro Rapid project manager.

Over time, most of the 536 full- and part-time operators at Division 7 in Los Angeles and most of the 226 full- and part-time operators at Division 8 in Chatsworth are expected to drive the Metro Rapid bus lines.

[Back to MTA Report](#)