



## **MTA WILL REDUCE BUS FARES, EXPAND SERVICE ON HARBOR TRANSITWAY BEGINNING OCTOBER 1**

by JOSE UBALDO

**(August 4)** The MTA Board of Directors voted 7-0 July 27 to authorize reduced fares and increase Metro bus service on the Harbor Transitway for a period of three months beginning Oct. 1.

The upgraded service is expected to begin at the same time two of the southernmost Metro Bus stations will open at Carson Street and at Pacific Coast Highway.

The Harbor Transitway, completed in August 1996, operates along the median of the Harbor Freeway between Artesia Boulevard in the City of Gardena and Adams Boulevard just south of downtown Los Angeles. So far there are six Metro Bus stations along the transitway.

Beginning Oct. 1, fares for passengers traveling between downtown Los Angeles and San Pedro will be reduced to \$1.35. Fare reductions will apply to Metro Bus lines 442, 444, 445, 446, 447 and 550 from October through December. The MTA serves about 2,500 daily transitway riders.

The service will be increased from rush-hour only to all-day service. Line 445 will operate every 30 minutes from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week, during peak hours and every 60 minutes during mid-day and weekends from San Pedro station to downtown Los Angeles.

However, a total of six Metro buses serve the Harbor Transitway, with five going to downtown Los Angeles and Line 550 to West Hollywood.

There will be an increase in total bus service along the transitway to run every 8 minutes during peak hours and every 15 minutes during rush hours.

Presently, MTA Line 445 and Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) Line 448 are the only express routes operating on the Harbor Freeway south of Artesia Boulevard. However, both routes operate only during peak hours in the peak directions, with no mid-day or weekend service.

If, after the end of the three month evaluation period, service productivity on Line 445 does not generate at least 50 percent of the minimum standard for passenger boardings, service will be



**subject to modification based on performance.**

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