



LA's is on the move again as Metro Buses and Metro Rail begin operations.

PHOTOS BY BILL HEARD

Transit Operations Scores Big on Thursday Rollouts

(Oct. 19) The Thursday morning Metro Bus rollout hit 93 percent. Metro Rail scored 100 percent on both light-rail lines and two-thirds of Metro Red Line trains were in service. Not bad for the first full day of transit operations after a 32-day hiatus.

"Ninety-three percent is a good indication our people are picking up the ball and going forward with it," said Dan Ibarra, deputy executive officer, Bus Operations. "The division managers and staff did an outstanding job getting everyone back to work."

The bus and rail systems actually started their come-back on Wednesday. Sixty-seven percent of buses made the morning rollout, escalating to 75 percent that afternoon. Metro Rail service started up in the afternoon.

More than enough service

"We had a lot of capacity on the Metro Red Line this morning," said Ralph de la Cruz, deputy executive officer, Rail Operations. "We ran six-car trains and that was more than enough to service our passengers."

A DWP power failure on the Metro Blue Line between Washington Station and 7th and Metro disrupted service for an hour and a half beginning at 6:05 a.m., Thursday. A bus bridge and two 15-passenger vans commandeered by Rail Operations kept passengers moving.

In the most unfortunate incident of the day, Division 10 Operator Ramon Alvarenga, who was making his Line 60 run in Huntington Park, was assaulted by a passenger. Alvarenga suffered injuries to his nose and shoulder. The passenger was arrested by Sheriff's deputies and charged with felony battery.

[Back to MTA Report](#)