



- **Survey Quizzes Patrons on Parking Lot Use at NoHo, Universal City Metro Rail Stations**

(Aug. 29, 2001) When Metro Red Line patrons find the parking lots at the North Hollywood and Universal City stations chockablock with cars by 9 a.m., they're miffed. And some park illegally.

As part of an effort to solve parking problems at the two stations, the MTA first needed some basic information.

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That's why in early August, some 1,500 motorists who use the parking lots found a survey under their windshield wipers.

Where are you coming from, the survey asked, and how often and when do you use the parking lot?

Patrons also were asked how much they know about available bus service to the stations, possible reasons for not taking the bus, and whether they would support a parking charge if space could be guaranteed.

MTA Transportation Planning Manager Michael Sieckert says approximately 400 surveys were placed on cars parked at the Universal City station. About 1,100 were distributed at North Hollywood station.

'Testing the waters'

"We're kind of testing the water, feeling the pulse of the public," said Sieckert. "If we can identify clusters of people who live in areas where there may be an inadequate bus link to the stations, we may be able to restructure service...or create new service to meet people's needs."

Valet parking also is being considered.

"In the case of North Hollywood, for example, we think we could expand current parking capacity by upwards of 25 to 30 percent by using that type of parking strategy," Sieckert said.

A complete report with recommendations is expected to be submitted to the MTA Board by this fall.

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