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"Bikes on Rail" news conference puts a new spin on commuting.



The MTA's Bikes on Rail news conference, staged at the Wilshire/ Vermont Metro Rail Station Oct. 29, featured remarks from MTA Board Member Pam O'Connor, Metro Rail GM Gerald Francis, MTA Countywide Planning Executive Officer Jim De La Loza and the executive director of the L.A. Bike Coalition, Ron Milam. PHOTOS: LISA HUYNH

MTA and bicycling advocates joined forces in a news conference Oct. 29 to announce a new MTA Bike on Rail policy on Metro Rail. The new policy aids patrons who use their bicycles in daily commutes. Under the revised policy, patrons using bicycles will no longer need to have a permit to board Metro Rail trains with their bikes. One hour was sliced off peak-hour restriction, which now allows bicyclists on board all but two hours during the morning and evening rush hours - from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 4:30 p.m to 6:30 p.m. MTA also lifted all restrictions that had previously applied to peak-hour reverse commutes on the Metro Blue and Green lines.

Below, Ron Milam wheels his bike onto the subway for introductory ride on the Metro Red Line. In second photo, Milam awaits train with LASD bike patrol and Bike Coalition team.





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Back to MTA Report