

Board Sets Free Fares for Metro Gold Line Opening

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(July 1, 2003) The MTA Board approved motions at its June meeting providing free fares during Metro Gold Line's opening weekend, authorizing the repainting of Metro buses and trains in new colors, and establishing a new transitional duty program for employees injured on the job.

Approved by the full Board

Item 43, Free Fare Promotion. MTA will kick off the Grand Opening of the Metro Gold Line with a two-day free fare promotion Saturday, July 26, and Sunday, July 27. The promotion will be in effect on that line only. All other Metro services will collect the usual fares.

On Monday, July 28, the current fare of \$1.35 or 90-cent tokens will be required on the Metro Gold Line.

MTA will operate service on the Union Station to Sierra Madre Villa line on from 4 a.m. until 2 a.m., seven days a week. Trains will operate on 10-minute headways during weekday peak hours; on 12-minute headways during mid-day and every 20 minutes during late-night hours.

Approved by the full Board

Item 42, New Graphic Schemes. The Board approved staff plans to repaint Metro Buses and Metro Rail cars in colors that would clearly identify each vehicle with the type of service it would provide.

Bright red would continue to signify Metro Rapid service, California poppy orange would denote local bus service and a crisp blue would be used in the future on express buses. All Metro Rail cars would either be painted silver or would retain their stainless steel appearance. The base color for all vehicles will be silver.

A plan to modify the MTA logo was referred to committees. The staff will present a Metro service identification program at future committee meetings.

Approved by the full Board

Item 27, Transitional Duty Program. Under the Transitional Duty and Safety Patrol Program, contract and non-contract employees who are eligible for Workers' Compensation benefits also will be eligible to participate in temporary special limited duty assignments patrolling

select Metro Bus and Metro Rail stations, MTA parking lots and other facilities.

Employees assigned to the Safety Patrol would be responsible for reporting safety problems and suspicious activity at the assigned locations. Risk Management's Workers' Compensation Division and the Security Department will jointly manage the program.

Approved by the full Board

Item 44, Hollywood/Vine Development. The CEO was given authority to negotiate an agreement for development of a 300-room hotel, 250 apartments, 50 condos and some 40,000 square feet of retail space at the Hollywood/Vine Metro station.

The joint development agreement with Legacy Partners and Gatehouse Capital covers 2.8 acres of MTA-owned land. The project also would encompass 1.47 acres of adjacent privately owned land.

Approved by the full Board

Item 6, Development Guidelines. The Board adopted conceptual guidelines for development of MTA property at the Vermont/Sunset, Vermont/Santa Monica and Vermont Beverly Metro Red Line stations.

The guidelines envision mixed-use, medium-density development with multi-family housing whose residents could walk to retail and other commercial firms, including low-impact industrial enterprises.

Approved by the full Board

Item 11, Transit Funds. The Board approved an allocation of approximately \$1 billion to LA County transit operators and cities for FY 2004. The funds are provided from Proposition A and C, the Transportation Development Act and other sources.

Approved by the full Board

Item 35, Uniform Rental. The Board awarded a five-year, \$2 million contract for rental of mechanics' uniforms and shop towels to Aramark Uniform and Career Apparel Inc.

MTA is required by its collective bargaining agreement with the ATU to provide uniforms and laundry service for ATU members. For many years, MTA has purchased uniforms and shop towels and outsourced the laundry services.

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