

MTA Urging Holiday Travelers to 'Fly Metro' to Local Airports

By DAVE SOTERO

(Dec. 16, 2003) In a "Fly Metro" ad campaign aimed at holiday travelers, MTA is urging the use of Metro Bus, Metro Rail and other local transit options as alternatives to the hassles and costs of driving to and parking at LA County airports.

The Automobile Club of Southern California is projecting a 3 percent increase in the number of Southern California residents who will be traveling by car this holiday season.

Los Angeles World Airport authorities expect approximately 2.6 million passengers to pass through LAX between Dec. 19 and Jan. 4. Burbank Airport authorities estimate an average of 17,000 to 19,000 people between Dec. 21 and Dec. 27. Long Beach Airport expects a total of 290,000 passengers for the month of December.

"Many LA travelers are simply unaware that there are alternatives to driving to and from county airports," says CEO Roger Snoble.

Savings is substantial

The cost savings to airport travelers who want to avoid parking fees is substantial. Parking rates at LAX range from \$8 to \$30 per day. Burbank Airport parking fees range from \$4.55 to \$15.45 per day. At Long Beach Airport, daily parking fees range from \$6 to \$15 per day.

MTA operates nine Metro Bus Lines serving LAX and four lines serving Burbank Airport. Long Beach Transit serves Long Beach Airport.

Metro Bus lines serving LAX are Line 42, 220, 111, 117, 220, 232, 315, 439 and 625. Lines serving Burbank Glendale Pasadena Airport are Line 94/394, 163 and 165. Long Beach Transit Line 111 serves Long Beach Airport.

Santa Monica Big Blue Bus and Culver City Bus provide additional local services to LAX. These bus operators will also adhere to a holiday service schedule on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Metrolink trains

Metrolink provides 14 weekday trains from Los Angeles to the Burbank Airport. Another 13 trains travel from Los Angeles to Burbank Station, where passengers can get a free shuttle to the airport.

There are also 10 Metrolink trains coming south on the Ventura County line that stop at the Burbank Airport. Trains will adhere to their normal operating schedules throughout the holiday season, but will not operate Christmas Day and will not stop at the Burbank Airport on New Year's Day.

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