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El Monte Busway, Metrolink Projects Will Affect Commutes

(Aug. 17, 2004) Reconstruction projects starting later this month will impact commuter service on the El Monte Busway and on Metrolink's San Bernardino line.

Caltrans plans to resurface almost six miles of the Busway between the I-710 and Mission Street in Los Angeles. The \$1.6 million project is expected to begin Friday, Aug. 27, and could continue until Dec. 13, according to Resident Engineer Anthony Kim.

Metrolink plans to replace 27,000 wooden ties with concrete crossties along an 11-mile stretch of track between El Monte and the Los Angeles River.

Work on the \$5.88 million project, which will be restricted to weekends, begins Friday night, Aug. 20, and will last for eight weekends, ending in mid-October. The east- and westbound carpools on the I-10 also will be closed during weekend work hours.

No work on the project is scheduled over the Labor Day weekend, Sept. 4 - 5.

Regular weekday service

Metrolink will continue to operate regular service on the San Bernardino line Monday through Friday. Beginning Aug. 21, Metrolink will provide bus service between Union Station and the El Monte Transit Center.

Resurfacing work on the El Monte Busway project will be done at night and on weekends. It will begin at 10 p.m. on weeknights and will wrap up at 4 a.m. the next morning. On weekends, the busway will be closed from 10 p.m. on Fridays until 4 a.m. on Mondays.

Signs in English and Spanish detailing times for the resurfacing work will be posted at the entrance of the Busway at Alameda Street, at County-USC Medical Center, at Cal State LA and at the El Monte Transit Center.

During the resurfacing, the El Monte Transit Center will remain open, but Metro Buses won't have access to County-USC Medical Center or to the Cal State LA bus station. Buses will operate on the freeway during the work periods.

Metro Bus Lines 484, 485, 487, 489 and 490 will be affected by the Busway work and patrons can expect some delays.

Foothill Transit Lines 480, 482 and 486 will be affected on weekdays between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m., while Line 480 will be impacted on weekends. Foothill Transit buses will not serve the Cal State LA or the County-USC stations during resurfacing work periods.

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