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Metro to Implement 4 New Bus Lines, Beginning June 26

- Includes 2 Metro Rapid Lines, a freeway express bus
- Some late-night Metro Rail service to be trimmed an hour

By RICK JAGER

(June 7, 2005) Metro will implement four new bus lines, including two new Metro Rapid Bus Lines and a freeway express line, as part of service modifications set to begin on June 26.

Late-night service on the Metro Green Line, Metro Gold Line and the Wilshire/Western portion on the Metro Red Line will be trimmed by an hour effective June 26. Metro Rail changes are being made because of low ridership during late night hours and as a cost-cutting effort to balance a tight budget.

Two new Metro Rapid lines will be implemented, Monday, June 27. They will operate on Beverly Boulevard (Line 714) and along Fairfax Avenue (Line 717). Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus will begin operating a rapid bus line between Santa Monica and LAX, primarily along Lincoln Boulevard.

Metro also will start a new freeway express bus Line 450X from the Artesia Transit Center. During peak morning and afternoon periods, Monday through Friday only, it will operate along the Harbor Transitway to 7th and Metro and the Financial District.

Line 645 shuttle service

In the San Fernando Valley, Metro will begin operating new shuttle bus service, Line 645, from Warner Center via Topanga Canyon, Mulholland, Valley Circle, Vanowen, Fallbrook, and Sherman Way to West Hills Medical Center to replace the canceled segment of former Line 245.

Weekend service along this segment will no longer be provided. The service is being implemented as part of modifications being made in anticipation of the Metro Orange Line opening later this year.

Some service cancellations also are planned on a few Metro Bus lines as part of the service modifications. Midday service will be cancelled on Line 211/215 (Prairie Ave./Inglewood Ave.) and Line 202 (Willowbrook/Compton/Wilmington). Saturday and midday service will be cancelled on Line 168 (LassenStreet/Paxton Street).

In addition to the new services being implemented, numerous Metro Bus lines will undergo service modifications.

