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Metro Freeway Service Patrol to Expand Middays, Weekends

- MFSP has helped nearly 4 million stranded motorists

By ED SCANNELL

(June 24, 2005) The Board has approved a \$3.5 million expansion of the Metro Freeway Service Patrol. The expansion will provide midday and weekend service to freeway segments (beats) that currently do not have the service.

"The Metro Freeway Service Patrol has aided nearly 4 million stranded motorists since the program's inception in 1991," said Board Chairman Frank Roberts. "MFSP's quick response has provided peace of mind to these motorists free of charge, and relief to our traffic clogged freeways."

The intent of the service expansion is to provide a consistent level of service on all beats to address the increasing traffic congestion across the the county's freeway network.

The increase can be attributed to several factors, including population expansion, growth of commuting distances and increased goods movement.

Increase number of trucks

The number of trucks in operation during middays and weekends will be increased from the current 33 during midday and 28 on weekends to 44 during midday and 42 on weekends.

MFSP will continue to provide 147 tow and service trucks during peak hours. The hours of service will be 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends.

This increase in MFSP deployment represents Phase I of a two-phase service expansion. Phase II would initiate new service in the remaining areas of LA County, such as I-5 in Santa Clarita and Route 210 from Pasadena to San Fernando, that currently do not have service.

The Metro Freeway Service Patrol serves more than 400 miles of Los Angeles County freeways. The program is jointly managed by Metro, CHP and Caltrans and is funded by state highway funds and Proposition C, the half-cent sales tax approved by voters in 1990.



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