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Events Scheduled at 5 Stations During Orange Line Opening

- Festivities planned for Oct. 29, free rides all weekend

By DAVE SOTERO

(Oct. 19, 2005) Metro is planning community events at five Orange Line stations on Saturday, Oct. 29, to celebrate the public opening of the San Fernando Valley transitway.

No events are planned for Sunday, Oct. 30, but the public is invited for free rides on the 60-foot Metro Liners all weekend. Buses will run Saturday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 5 a.m. to midnight.

The community celebrations are scheduled between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the five stations.

North Hollywood Station

Community festivities at the Metro Red Line park & ride lot on Lankershim Boulevard will include live jazz, blues and rock & roll music, comedy, a dance troupe, community booths and food vendors.

Van Nuys Station

The event, to be held in the park & ride lot at the corner of Van Nuys and Aetna Street, will include a mariachi band, Grant High School bands, bicycle safety checks, drawings and booths.

Balboa Station

Attendees can learn about exciting summer programs for the whole family, enjoy an elementary school choral performance, giveaways and more. The station's park & ride lot is at the corner of Victory and Balboa in Encino.

De Soto Station

The event is set for the Pierce College Campus at the corner of DeSoto and Victory in Woodland Hills. The college will hold its annual "Halloween Harvest Festival" from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Festivities will include a pumpkin patch, corn mazes, a haunted house and maze.

Warner Center Station

Set in the Westfield Mall parking lot at the corner of Erwin and Owensmouth (behind Macy's), the festivities will include the El Camino marching band, the Carter Burgess Halloween Costume Parade, a live remote broadcast by KOST-103.5 FM, Chivas USA Soccer Team autographs, demonstrations and live music.