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Passengers exit Metro Liner at North Hollywood Station.



Photo by Gary Leonard

## Orange Line Boardings Far Exceed Metro's Expectations

- 'Versatile line' drawing 16,360 boardings each weekday

(Dec. 7, 2005) With a full month of data now available, estimated weekday boardings on the Metro Orange Line for November stand at 16,360 – three times what the agency expected.

Saturday boardings on the 14-mile, cross-Valley line are estimated at 11,220, almost 69 percent of the daily total. Sunday boardings were recorded at 8,126, almost half the daily total.

The most popular stations: North Hollywood, Van Nuys, Reseda, Warner Center and Balboa.

"This is a unique line and more versatile than we had thought," says San Fernando Valley General Manager Richard Hunt. "We thought it would be primarily a commuter line, but it seems it's more of a service interconnection line, although the commuter population is growing."

While earlier boarding estimates of 10,000 to 11,000 daily boardings were based on ticket sales, November estimates are based on schedule checker observations and some automated passenger counter numbers.

## 66 percent at Noho

Just over 66 percent of westbound daily boardings occurred at the North Hollywood station, with the majority apparently coming as transfers from the Metro Red Line.

The second most popular station for westbound boardings was Van Nuys, with 8.6 percent, while the Laurel Canyon station pulled 6.7 percent of boardings.

Statistics showed that 20 percent of westbound riders got off the buses at the Van Nuys station, 12.3 percent at the Reseda station and 18.7 percent at Warner Center.

On the eastbound run, the Van Nuys station has an estimated 22 percent of the boardings, ahead of Warner Center with 16.7 percent and the Reseda station with 12.9 percent.

Most of the eastbound riders – an estimated 67.3 percent – disembarked at the North Hollywood station, but 9.1 percent left the buses at the Van Nuys station and 5.2 percent at the Valley College station.

“We’ve watched the heavy loads every day and the figures for November are consistent with what we’ve seen,” says Hunt. “I’m very pleased, but not surprised.”