

[Home](#)[CEO Hotline](#)[Viewpoint](#)[Classified Ads](#)[Archives](#)[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

[Safety](#)[Pressroom](#) (web)[Ask the CEO](#)[CEO Forum](#)[Employee Recognition](#)[Employee Activities](#)[Metro Projects](#)[Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)[Archives](#)[Events Calendar](#)[Research Center/
Library](#)[Metro Classifieds](#)[Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

[30/10 Initiative](#)[Policies](#)[Training](#)[Help Desk](#)[Intranet Policy](#)

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Buses like the 45-foot NABI coach shown here are being assigned to Line 761 in the San Fernando Valley.



Metro's Popular Rapid Line 761 Gets New High-Capacity Buses

By KIM UPTON

(March 10, 2006) Ten new high-capacity, 45-foot "composite" buses have just been added to the Metro Rapid Line 761 in the San Fernando Valley.

Line 761 travels Van Nuys Boulevard between Foothill and Ventura boulevards and on to Westwood. The buses, which can seat 46 passengers, went into service March 6.

"These buses are perfect for Metro's popular 761 Line," said General Manager Richard Hunt. "They can carry more passengers -- a 16 percent increase over the 40-foot buses -- and they are fuel-friendly and comfortable for our customers."

The new 45-foot buses are actually just a temporary addition to Metro Rapid Line 761. This summer, they will be replaced by 60-foot articulated coaches that seat 57. The 45-foot coaches will be moved to other lines to improve the level of service in other parts of the Valley.

"Our goal is to continue improving the level of service in the Valley," Hunt said. "We are putting these new buses into service to give extra capacity and comfort to our riders."

Manufactured by North American Bus Industries, the composite buses have fiberglass and carbon fiber reinforced bodies that weigh the same

as a regular steel-framed bus, but are stronger and resistant to corrosion and collision damage. Each bus costs \$370,000.

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