



Metro Responds to "Day Without Immigrants" March

Photos by Gayle Anderson
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Scroll through thumbnail images below and click to view slide show. Images are from the morning march that gathered at Los Angeles City Hall. Guy with the mini-dv camcorder (third from last image) is CNN Anchor Anderson Cooper making the rounds in downtown Los Angeles as part of his national coverage of the event.

Demonstrators en route to the rallies on Wilshire Boulevard crowded onto Metro Blue Line trains beginning before 10 a.m., Monday morning, headed for the 7th and Metro station. Service Development Manager Bruce Shelburne estimated the three-car trains were transporting some 8,400 northbound passengers per hour.

At the 7th and Metro station, the demonstrators boarded westbound trains to reach the rally sites on Wilshire. Shelburne estimates the Metro Red Line were transporting more than 20,000 passengers per hour, at peak. About half that number rode the trains eastbound after the demonstrations.

By 10 p.m., Monday, Metro Rail service had returned to normal and was operating routinely Tuesday morning.

"There were no problems whatsoever with the crowds," said Shelburne. "Our primary concern in events like this is safety and I think we did a good job. The Sheriff's deputies did an outstanding job helping us out. The agency showed its mettle out there yesterday."

After the demonstration ended at Wilshire and La Brea, Metro provided 32 extra buses to carry the crowds back eastbound.

To get the 32 buses, Bus Operations Center issued a general call for all buses that were going out of service. The extra service was in effect between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. and moved an estimated 6,000 passengers, said Tom Jasmin, director of Operations Control.

By 9:30 p.m., Jasmin said, regular Metro Bus service had been restored on Wilshire. -- from Bill Heard



