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Metro's Transit TV System Now Tracks Progress of Buses

- Global positioning map is first of its kind in the U.S.

By KIM UPTON

(Nov. 21, 2006) Metro Bus patrons who want to check the progress of their commute now only have to look at the global positioning map shown on the Transit TV monitors aboard their bus. The system is the first of its kind in the United States.

Located on the left side of the TV screen, the vertical map shows an animated bus icon moving through the streets as it makes its way along its prescribed route. The global positioning device tracks the progress and location of the bus.

"We've added this new feature to Transit TV to give customers a map pinpointing the real-time location of their buses," says Warren Morse, deputy executive officer of Communications. "Riders can see the vehicle's movement, along with the street names and the surrounding area to help them identify their stops as they approach."

Transit TV debuted on Metro buses in 2005. The video monitors offer riders current news, weather and sports headlines, word games, trivia questions and snippets of vintage television shows.

The displays also include rider information, spots about upcoming events in the Los Angeles area and advertisements. Transit TV has been applauded by riders in Metro customer satisfaction surveys. Metro incurs no cost for the system or the new mapping feature.

"Transit TV continues to evolve and improve and over time the program is revised," says Morse. "This is a brand new feature that we think will be helpful to our customers. We also hope it will make their rides more pleasurable."



The global positioning map displayed on the left side of the Transit TV screen shows a bus icon located at the real-time position of the Metro bus – in this case, Union Station.

