

[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](#)

## Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk  
at 2-4357

[Contact myMetro.net](#)

## Metro, 3 Transit Agencies to Provide Shuttles for President Ford Services

By BILL HEARD, Editor

(Dec. 27, 2006) Metro and three other regional transit agencies will provide shuttle service during a memorial planned for former President Gerald Ford, this weekend, in Palm Desert.

Beginning at 4 p.m., Friday, the shuttle service – which will operate from a parking lot at the Indian Wells Tennis Gardens sports arena to St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert – will continue until 7 a.m., Saturday.

President Ford, the nation's 38th president, died Tuesday at age 93. After a local funeral service, his remains will lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C., before burial in his hometown of Grand Rapids, Mich.

The four transit agencies were asked by the Ford family and the Secret Service to provide a total of 56 coaches over a 24-hour period to transport Ford family members, friends and members of the public from the parking area to the church.

According to San Fernando Valley General Manager Richard Hunt, Metro will provide up to 18 buses and some 30 operators, as well as maintenance and supervisory support to the effort, which is being led by Sun Line Transit of Palm Springs. Also, providing buses and operators will be OCTA and Omni Trans of San Bernardino.

Metro's George Trudeau and Steve Rank have been working on the shuttle service plan with the three transit agencies, the Ford family and the Secret Service for the past 18 months, said Hunt.



Gerald Ford, the 38th president of the United States, died Tuesday in Rancho Mirage



TOS Steve Rank directs mourners onto a departing bus at the memorial services held for the late President Ronald Reagan in June 2004. Shuttle buses transported some 1,800 an hour to the Reagan Library in Simi Valley.

In June 2004, Metro provided some 25 buses, 95 operators and 14 supervisory personnel during a 35-hour shuttle operation for the memorial service for the late President Ronald Reagan at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley.

For the Ford service, each Metro service sector has been asked to provide buses, which will be staged tonight at East Valley Division 15. Bus operators also are being signed up for the shuttle operation.

After Ford’s death was announced, “our plan kicked into high gear,” Hunt said. “We’ll be there to support and provide whatever we can for this occasion of national mourning.”