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May 1 Marches to Detour Most Downtown Metro Buses



May Day One: When thousands thronged downtown Los Angeles in 2006 for the first May Day Immigration march, Metro provided 32 extra buses to carry the crowds back from the end point of the solo march at Wilshire and La Brea. The extra service was in effect between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. and moved an estimated 6,000 passengers. By 9:30 p.m., regular Metro Bus service had been restored on Wilshire.

During the peak hours of the march, the Metro Red Line was transporting more than 20,000 passengers per hour. 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.

 Traffic delays expected in the Downtown area from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

(April 30, 2009) Due to a series of six planned marches in and around downtown Los Angeles on Friday, May 1, Metro will detour nearly all buses in and out of downtown and is anticipating traffic delays from approximately 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To avoid traffic, patrons traveling downtown are advised to take the Metro Red/Purple Line to Union Station or Civic Center, Pershing Square or 7th Street/Metro Center stations, to allow extra time for trips and to be prepared to walk, should buses be delayed or re-routed by police.

If travel through downtown is necessary, take the Metro Red/Purple Line to Union Station or to 7th Street/Metro Center station, or take the Blue Line to Pico, Grand or Washington stations and transfer to buses heading out of downtown.

Broadway will be closed beginning at about 11 a.m., from Olympic

Boulevard to Temple Street, due to three consecutive marches. Spring, Main and Los Angeles streets will also be closed between Temple and 1st streets.

All bus lines that normally operate on Broadway, Spring, Main or Los Angeles streets will be detoured. All bus lines that normally cross Broadway between 1st Street and Olympic Boulevard will also experience detours and significant service delays.

A fourth group will assemble at Echo Park and Park avenues in Echo Park and begin marching east on Sunset at 2 p.m., continuing to Spring Street. Affected Metro bus lines include: 2, 4, 200, 603 and 704.

At 3 p.m., another group will assemble at 7th Street, west of Alameda, and march west along 5th Street, then north on Broadway. All bus lines that operate between Alameda Street and Broadway will experience significant delays, including those lines already detoured.

A sixth group will assemble at 4:30 p.m. at First and Spring streets, continuing south on Broadway, then west on 7th Street to MacArthur Park. All bus lines that operate between Broadway and Alvarado will experience significant delays, including those already detoured.

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