



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

MTA ACTS TO KEEP L.A. MARATHON ON HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD

The MTA, responding to the wishes of the Hollywood business community, will earmark \$90,000 from Hollywood Construction Impact Program (HCIP) funds to keep the 1996 Los Angeles Marathon on Hollywood Boulevard. The race would otherwise have been rerouted to Sunset Boulevard because of Metro Red Line station construction at Western Avenue, Vine Street and Highland Avenue.

Hollywood Boulevard will remain open to traffic throughout the course of Red Line Construction through the use of concrete decking at the three station sites. The decks allow traffic to pass overhead at street level while the stations are excavated and constructed.

HCIP funds will be used to install temporary mats over the decks at Western Vine and Highland to accommodate the thousands of runners who participate in the Marathon. "The Hollywood Boulevard merchants told us they wanted to keep the race on their street," said MTA Chief Executive Officer Franklin White. "The HCIP was established to help mitigate the temporary effects of construction, so we are happy to accommodate their wishes."

The next Los Angeles Marathon is scheduled for March 5, 1996. The Hollywood Boulevard segment of the Metro Red Line is scheduled to begin operations in 1998.

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