



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA, METROLINK ANNOUNCE MAJOR ENHANCEMENT IN RIGHT-OF-WAY SAFETY

The MTA and Metrolink have begun installing fences and warning signs along the Metrolink Santa Clarita Line right-of-way. The program is part of a safety enhancement effort that will extend 32 miles from Glendale to the Santa Clarita-Princessa station.

"Rail safety has always been a high priority for the MTA," said Larry Zarian, MTA chairman. "These safety enhancements are designed to deter trespassing and illegal dumping, and make the areas along the right-of-way safer for bus patrons and pedestrians."

"We're employing a cost-effective approach by building limited fencing at strategic locations, which will enhance safety over a much larger area," said Richard Alarcon, Metrolink Board member and a Los Angeles City Councilman. "Our target locations include the areas near overpasses and underpasses, streets that dead-end at railroad tracks, and bus stops located along the right-of-way. We installed a two mile pilot project in the Pacoima area in 1993, which reduced pedestrian trespassing by 95 per cent"

The MTA is using vandal-resistant galvanized mesh fencing, which costs less than wrought iron and is more durable than chain link. Signs will warn pedestrians to keep out of the rail right-of-way.

Construction on the \$756,000 program began earlier this month and will be completed in June.

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