



NEWS

Jan. 5, 2000

CONTACT: JOSE UBALDO/MARC LITTMAN
MTA MEDIA RELATIONS
(213) 922-3087/(213) 922-2700
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON TRANSFER OF BUS LINE 104 (L.A.-LA MIRADA VIA E. WASHINGTON BLVD) TO MONTEBELLO BUS LINES

The MTA will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 18, 2000 to receive public comments regarding the proposal from Montebello Bus Lines to operate MTA Line 104 (Los Angeles-La Mirada via east Washington Boulevard). If approved by the MTA Board of Directors in February, Montebello would begin operations Monday, April 3, 2000.

The public hearing will begin at 10 a.m. at the MTA's headquarters, One Gateway Plaza next to Union Station in downtown Los Angeles. The hearing will take place in the Board room on the third floor.

Line 104 operates from downtown Los Angeles to Whittier via east Washington Boulevard. From Whittier, this bus route operates to La Mirada on several streets. Service is provided weekdays only at peak frequency of 30 minutes and with mid-day and evening service operated every 60 minutes.

Bus Line 104 is presently operated by Laidlaw Transportation Inc., under contract to the MTA. However, this contract expires after March 31, 2000. Montebello Bus Lines expressed an interest in operating Line 104 and has agreed to operate service equal to or better than that currently being provided. Additionally, Montebello has agreed to honor all MTA fare media on this line at a reimbursement rate to be determined.

Line 104 carries an average of 23 boarding passengers per hour compared to the MTA system average of 53. There are approximately 2,400 weekday passengers on this line.

The transfer could benefit the MTA because Montebello would operate this line without subsidy from MTA. It currently cost MTA about \$860,000 a year to contract with Laidlaw for Line 104 operation.

Persons unable to attend the hearing may submit written testimony postmarked though Tuesday, January 18, 2000. Correspondence should be addressed to: LACMTA, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, Ca 90012-2932. Attention: January 18, 2000 Public Hearing for Line 104 Service Proposal.

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