



# NEWS

January 11, 2001

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## **GROWING NUMBER OF BUS AND RAIL STATION BICYCLE RACKS AND BICYCLE LOCKERS EXPECTED TO ATTRACT NEW TRANSIT USERS**

The arrival of hundreds of new MTA buses equipped with bicycle racks this year is expected to increase the number of bicyclists who use the Metro Bus System.

By the end of 2001, the entire active fleet, 2,200 buses in all, will feature bicycle racks. Before launching a pilot bicycle rack project in 1997 on several bus lines at the direction of the MTA Board, not one MTA bus sported a bicycle rack.

Today, some 1,400 buses, or two-thirds of the fleet, have racks above their front bumpers that are capable of carrying two bicycles. The MTA expects to receive 438 new compressed natural gas coaches with factory-installed bike racks in the first half of 2001. Hundreds of other MTA buses have been retrofitted with the holders.

The number of bike racks and lockers also will be increased at many of the 50 Metro Rail stations this year, beginning with six Metro Red Line subway stations. Metro Rail includes the 17.4 mile Metro Red Line subway, the 22-mile light-rail Metro Blue Line and 20-mile light-rail Metro Green Line.

Sixteen bicycle racks will be added at the Universal City Metro Red Line Station this month and 29 lockers are being installed at other stations.

In December, 20 new racks were placed at the North Hollywood Metro Red Line station and eight new lockers will be installed this month, bringing the number of bike parking spaces to 44.

MORE...

## Page 2 Bicycle Racks/Lockers On Rise

Thirty-four Metro Rail stations currently have parking for a total of 653 bicycles. Sixteen other Metro Rail stations, which now lack space for bikes, will be re-evaluated to determine whether bicycle parking can be added.

The MTA also plans to seek funding for bike racks at 45 Metro Rapid bus stations on Ventura Boulevard and on Wilshire/Whittier boulevards.

Bicycle racks are available free on a first-come basis and may be used anytime on MTA buses. No bikes can be brought on Metro Rail trains during the 6 a.m.-9 a.m. and 3 p.m.-7 p.m. rush hour periods.

For more information on how to reserve bicycle lockers, which cost \$9 every three months, call Vanessa Smith at (213) 922-7009.

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