

Planned MTA Bus Service Changes in Gateway Cities Area to Provide Greater Service to Riders

- Line 460 providing service between downtown L.A. and Disneyland to operate exclusively on freeway carpool lanes, dramatically cutting travel times.

Planned MTA bus service changes in the Gateway Cities area of Los Angeles will significantly enhance service, reducing travel times while improving schedule reliability and performance for MTA transit customers.

These service changes, scheduled to go into effect June 29, 2003 or later, add service on some lines, restructure others and cancel segments as MTA moves to improve the utility and efficiency of its Gateway Cities area bus operations. In addition, two new limited lines and two new shuttle bus lines will be established.

Among those changes is the restructure of Bus Line 460, which provides bus service between Los Angeles, Norwalk and Disneyland in Anaheim. Line 460 will continue to travel as it does today between Disneyland and the I-605 Norwalk station. From that station the new route will operate westbound via the I-105 and I-110 freeways using carpool lanes to downtown Los Angeles, where the line will operate via Figueroa Street and 6th Street to Maple Avenue. Eastbound trips will operate via 5th Street from Maple Avenue, Flower Street, 11th Street, Figueroa Street, 23rd Street and Flower Street, traveling via the I-105 and I-110 freeways to the Norwalk Station.

The route is being changed to reduce travel times for most riders on this line, to improve schedule reliability and improve line performance. The current bus route discourages ridership growth, and as a result, the public subsidy required to operate this line is more than \$6 per passenger, making it one of the poorest performing lines in the entire MTA bus system.

Use of carpool lanes will reduce travel times between Disneyland and Los Angeles from about 120 minutes to about 90-95 minutes, a substantial 25% time savings for bus riders.

On the new route between Norwalk and downtown Los Angeles alone, travel times will be reduced from 50-66 minutes to approximately 30-35 minutes, which, besides reducing rider travel times, lends stability and dependability to the operating schedule of the line, which has often been adversely impacted by the traffic congestion on the I-5 freeway.

The new route of Line 460 between Norwalk station and downtown Los Angeles will also be faster for patrons now riding the Metro Green and Blue lines destined to or from the 7th Street Metro Station compared to current train travel.

The restructured Line 460 will also provide new service to the Staples Center, Los Angeles Convention Center and Financial District.

Residents of Downey who now ride Line 460 will continue to have access to this line at the I-605 Metro Green Line Station in Norwalk. Additionally, the route for Line 111 (Florence Avenue) will be extended from Florence Avenue via Studebaker Road to serve the I-605 Station on June 29, concurrent with the Line 460 modification. The extension

of Line 111 will enable transfer connections with Line 460, and provide Line 111 riders with new, direct access to the Metro Green Line. Other regional bus lines serving the I-605 Station from the Downey area include Line 121 (Imperial Hwy), Line 115/315 (Firestone Blvd), and Line 125 (Rosecrans Blvd).

These changes were approved by the MTA Board last April and incorporate extensive input from local residents and community leaders. The agency conducted several community meetings in the cities of Downey, Norwalk and Huntington Park to gather public input to the changes, and conducted a major transit study that gathered input from community members, city officials and other key stakeholders in analyzing service improvements for the area.

The Metro Gateway Cities sector works closely with residents, elected officials and city staff to better understand the transportation needs of the communities before proposing service changes. When making bus service changes, MTA strives to provide better connectivity between bus and train services and to introduce new bus service where it is most needed.

Bus riders interested in obtaining schedule information for Line 460 and connecting lines serving the Downey area can receive new timetables on buses and at all MTA customer service centers in early June.

The Gateway Cities Service Sector serves 26 cities and unincorporated areas of Southeast Los Angeles County.

MTA-077

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