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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro to implement two new Metro Rapid Bus Lines, three new local bus lines and add additional service to 60 Metro bus lines beginning Sunday, Dec. 19

- Service changes:
Metro Gateway Cities
Metro San Gabriel Valley
Metro Westside/Central
Metro South Bay
Metro San Fernando Valley

Metro is adding 250,000 annual revenue service hours to improve Metro Bus service by adding scores of buses to 60 bus lines, implementing two new Metro Rapid bus lines and creating three new local bus routes to better serve Metro's five community-based transit service sectors throughout the region beginning Sunday, Dec. 19.

The two new Metro Rapid bus lines being implemented include Metro Rapid Line 740 via Hawthorne Blvd., Crenshaw Blvd., Martin Luther King Blvd., Broadway and Aliso/Arcadia streets and Metro Rapid Line 780 between Hollywood and Vine and Pasadena City College in Pasadena. Metro Rapid service begins on Monday, Dec. 20.

Metro also will implement new weekend service on Line 265 between the Lakewood Mall and Pico Rivera and start new limited stop service on Line 317 along Fairfax Avenue and Line 378 from Arcadia to downtown Los Angeles via Las Tunas and Huntington.

In addition, Metro will add service to 60 Metro Bus lines throughout the region on heavily used corridors to improve service and comply with the federal consent decree that calls for the addition of 145 buses to the Metro system by December 2004. Metro added 43 buses earlier this year during modifications to service made in June. Metro will add an additional 102 buses on Dec. 19.

Four line cancellations are planned to improve efficiencies and avoid duplication of Metro services. Those lines include Line 340 (replaced with new Metro Rapid Line 740), Line 380 (replaced with new Metro Rapid Line 780) Line 491, (replaced with Metro line 487 -LA/El Monte/Sierra Madre) and Line 576.

Line 576 (South Los Angeles/Pacific Palisade Express) is being cancelled due to low ridership and there is ample alternative service that currently duplicates the line. Patrons can access information on alternative service for Line 576 at www.metro.net/gatewaycities. The savings generated will be re-invested in the Gateway Cities Service Sector to support other bus service.

The following is a breakdown on service changes and enhancements by service sector to be implemented Sunday, Dec. 19.

Table with 3 columns: Line Number, Route, and Service Change. Includes Metro Gateway Cities Sector summary and details for lines 18, 26/51/52/352, 45/46, 60-360, 66-366, 105, 125, and 265.

362	LA-Santa Fe Springs-Norwalk-Hawaiin Garden	Additional service and route change to serve the Norwalk Metrolink station. Limited stop service extended to provide faster service between Atlantic and Norwalk.
576	S LA-Pacific Palisades Exp	Line cancelled. Access alternative service at www.metro.net/gatewaycities
603	Rampart Bl./Hoover St./Colorado St.	Additional service
605	Grande Vista Av./LA County-USC Medical Ctr. Shuttle	Additional service
745	Metro Rapid S Broadway	Additional service

Metro San Gabriel Valley Sector - A new Metro Rapid line will operate between Hollywood and Pasadena and service will be added to 8 lines.		
28-83-84-85-328	W Olympic Bl-York Bl-Eagle Rock Bl	Additional service
70-370	LA-El Monte via Garvey Av	Additional service
76	LA-El Monte via Valley Bl	Additional service
78-79-378	LA-Alhambra-S Arcadia-Arcadia	New late night shortline terminal in Arcadia west of Santa Anita Avenue. Add new limited stop service on Line 378.
81-381	Figueroa St	Additional service and conversion of limited stop trips north of downtown LA to local service.
180-181	Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena	Route 181 trips to terminate at Vermont/Barnsdale only when the Rapid 780 is in operation (approx. 6am-7pm).
260-361	Artesia Sta-Pasadena-Altadena-via Atlantic	Additional service
380	Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena	Line cancelled, replaced by line 780
484	LA-El Monte-La Puente-Pomona	Additional service
487	LA-San Gabriel-El Monte-Sierra Madre	Additional service and extend route from Sierra Madre to El Monte Station to cover Line 491 route.
490	LA-El Monte-Covina-Pomona	Additional service
491	LA-El Monte-Sierra Madre	Line cancelled, replaced by expanded line 487
780	Metro Rapid Hollywood-Colorado	New Metro Rapid service between Hollywood and Vine and Pasadena City College.

Metro Westside/Central Sector - Westside/Central creates a new line and adds service on 12 lines		
2-302	Sunset Bl-Beverly Dr	Additional service
4-304	Santa Monica Bl	Additional service
10-11-48	Melrose-Temple-San Pedro St	Additional service
14-37	Beverly Bl-W Adams	Additional service
16-316	W Third St	Additional service
20-21	Wilshire Bl-UCLA-Santa Monica	Additional service
30-31	W Pico Bl-1 st St-Floral Dr	Additional service
33-333	Venice Bl	Additional service
38-71	W Jefferson Bl-City Terrace	Additional service
68	W Washington Bl-Chavez Av	Additional service
317	Fairfax Av	New limited-stop service
434	LA-Santa Monica-Malibu-Trancas Exp	Additional service
720	Metro Rapid Wilshire-Whittier	Additional service

Metro South Bay Sector - In the South Bay area, 16 lines will add service and a new Metro Rapid line will operate on Hawthorne Boulevard.		
40	Hawthorne-Crenshaw Bl-King Bl-Union Station	Additional service
42	LA-Westchester-LAX	Additional service
53	Central Av	Additional service
55	LA-Compton Av-Imperial Sta	Additional service
108-358	Slauson Av	Added service and route change in Huntington Park to continue via Slauson Avenue between Pacific and Miles.
110	Gage Av-Centinel Av-Fox Hills Mall	Additional service
111	LAX-Florence Av-Leffingwell Rd	Additional service
115-315	Manchester Av-Firestone Bl	Additional service
120-121	Imperial Hwy-Aviation Sta	Additional service
204	Vermont Av	Additional service

205	Willowbrook-Harbor City-San Pedro	Route change in San Pedro with one way loop and new south terminal at 13 th and Gaffey streets
206	Normandie Av	Added service and new shortline at 54 th Street.
207-357	Western Av	Additional service
210	Vine St-Crenshaw Bl	Additional service
212-312	Hollywood-La Brea Av-Hawthorne Sta	Additional service
340	Hawthorne-Crenshaw Bl.-King Bl.-Union Station Limited	Line cancelled, replaced by line 740
445	LA-San Pedro Exp	Additional service
446-447	LA-Carson-Wilmington-San Pedro Express	Line 447 route modification in San Pedro (One-way loop at South terminal at San Pedro Peninsula Hospital).
550	W Hollywood-San Pedro Exp	Route modification in San Pedro (One-way loop at South terminal at San Pedro Peninsula Hospital).
740	Metro Rapid Hawthorne	New Metro Rapid service between South Bay and Downtown LA via Hawthorne Bl./Crenshaw Bl./King Bl./Broadway to Union Station.

Metro San Fernando Valley Sector - In the San Fernando Valley, 15 lines will add service including:		
90-91	LA-Sunland-Sylmar	Additional weekend service
150	Universal City-Ventura Bl-Reseda Bl-Canoga Park	Additional service
152	Fallbrook-Roscoe-Vineland-Burbank	Additional service
156	Van Nuys-Hollywood-LA City College	Additional weekend service
161	Thousand Oaks-Westlake-Calabasas-Canoga Park	Additional weekend service
163	Sherman Way-Hollywood	Additional service
164-165	Vanowen-Victory-Burbank	Additional service
166	Nordhoff St-Lankershim Bl	Additional service
230-239	Laurel Cyn-White Oak-Zelzah-Rinaldi	Additional service
233	Lake View Terrace-Van Nuys Bl	Additional weekend service
234-183	Sepulveda Bl-Magnolia Bl-Kenneth Rd	Additional service
236	Balboa Bl-Glenoaks Bl-Sylmar-Woodley Av-Van Nuys	Additional weekend service
243	De Soto Av-Ventura Bl-Winnetka Av	Additional service
750	Metro Rapid Ventura	Additional service
761	Metro Rapid Van Nuys	Additional service

For specific route and schedule information patrons can visit Metro's web site at www.metro.net or call 1-800-C-O-M-M-U-T-E.

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