



Metro News Pressroom

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro Introduces New Express Bus Service Between South Bay and Downtown Los Angeles

- New Metro Bus Line to speed commuters between Artesia and Downtown L.A. in less than 30 minutes -- half the time of driving alone

Beginning Monday, June 27, Metro will pilot a new express bus line that will speed rush hour commuters between the South Bay and Downtown Los Angeles in less than 30 minutes, about half the time of driving alone. Riders will be able to try out the new service for free Monday, June 27, through Wednesday, June 29.

Metro Express Line 450X will travel between Metro's Artesia Transit Center and Downtown L.A.'s Financial District, including stops at the 7th/Metro Center Station, the connection point to the Metro Red and Blue Rail Lines.

The Artesia Transit Center is located at 731 W. 182nd St., just east of Vermont Ave. Newly outfitted blue Express buses will make a brisk 25-30 minute trip achievable through use of high occupancy vehicle lanes on the Harbor/I-105 Transitway. The line will only make one mid-route stop at the Harbor Freeway station.

Two 40-foot, 40-passenger compressed natural gas buses will complete four round trips during the morning and afternoon rush hours. Buses will run every half hour between 6:25 a.m. and 7:55 a.m., and 4:05 p.m. to 5:25 p.m.

"The South Bay community will be well served by this new and improved Express service, which can save them valuable time and reduce gasoline and parking costs," said Dana M. Coffey, General Manager of Metro's South Bay Service Sector. "The Artesia Transit Center is fully equipped to handle commuters' needs, with 900 free park and ride spaces and connections with 10 Metro and two municipal transit lines serving much of the South Bay area."

The fare for all 450X Express Bus boarding points is \$2.25, which constitutes a \$1.25 regular fare plus \$1 for two freeway zones. The fare for seniors/disabled/Medicare recipients is just 95 cents.

The express buses will run on a trial basis for the next six months. Metro South Bay will hold public hearings in early August to determine if the line becomes a permanent express route.

Members of the public can participate in an Open House at the Artesia Transit Center Wednesday, June 29 to obtain information about Metro South Bay transportation services and to participate in the free rides for

Express Bus 450X. Information tables will be set up on the bus loading platform from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Metro South Bay is one of five operating units in Los Angeles County created to better serve its customers at the local level. The sector is comprised of two divisions with approximately 1,300 professionally trained bus operators, mechanics, service attendants, supervisors and administrators. The Carson Division provides service for 27 bus lines in communities east to Whittier, west to the Los Angeles Airport, north to Altadena and south to Long Beach. The Arthur Winston Division in Chesterfield Square has 14 bus lines in neighborhoods east to Whittwood Center, west to Marina del Rey, north to Hollywood and south to Gardena.

For more information on Metro South Bay services, visit www.metro.net/southbay. For information and Metro timetables, visit the web at www.metro.net or call 1-800-COMMUTE.

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