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CONTACT--

Kim Upton/Marc Littman

Metro MEDIA RELATIONS

(213) 922-2703/922-2700

www.metro.net/press/pressroom

e-mail-- mediarelations@metro.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Go Metro to Chinatown for Year of the Dog Celebrations

Fireworks, floats and the annual Firecracker 5- and 10-K Run will mark this year's Lunar New Year festivities in Chinatown and officials say the smart way to get there, considering the limited parking and closed streets, is via Metro.

It's 4704, the Year of the Dog, and the celebration of Chinese New Year in downtown Los Angeles will include the Golden Dragon Parade, Feb. 4, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and the Chinese New Year Festival, Feb. 4, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Feb. 5, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Also planned are a Feb. 5 car show, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the 28th annual Firecracker 5/10K race Feb. 12, starting at 8 a.m. and featuring a 5K Fun Walk and Kiddie Run.

More than 50,000 parade-goers are expected to line the route along north Broadway. With streets closed for the parade, as well as for the Firecracker Run, officials are advising visitors to take Metro to avoid traffic and crowds.

The Los Angeles to Pasadena Metro Gold Line stops in Chinatown, where many events are within a block or two of the station. Metro Bus Lines 45, 76, 81, 83, 84, 90, 91, 94 and 96. DASH Lincoln Heights/Chinatown and DASH Downtown buses also serve the area.

Metro fares are \$1.25 for a one-way ticket and \$3 for an all-day pass. Passes can be purchased on board Metro Buses or at Metro Rail station ticket vending machines.

To plan your trip, use the Metro Trip Planner at WWW.METRO.NET or call 1-800-C-O-M-M-U-T-E. For further details on the Chinese New Year celebration go to www.lagoldendragonparade.com. For more information on the Firecracker Race go to www.firecracker10k.org.

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