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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro to Introduce New Metro Rapid Line on Sepulveda Boulevard; Deploy High Capacity Buses On Six Lines and Make Other Service Modifications Effective June 25, 26

Metro will expand its successful Metro Rapid Bus program by implementing a new Metro Rapid Line 734 on Sepulveda Boulevard in the San Fernando Valley operating between Ventura Boulevard and the Sylmar Metrolink Station. The new line will operate every 10 minutes during morning and afternoon peak periods and every 20 minutes in mid-days and evenings, Monday through Friday. The new service begins Monday, June 26.

In addition, Metro will add high capacity buses to six lines, adding 60-foot articulated buses on Metro Rapid Lines 720 (Wilshire-Whittier Rapid) and 761 (Van Nuys Rapid). New 45-foot high capacity buses also will be deployed on Metro Rapid Lines 711 (Florence Rapid), 740 (Hawthorne Rapid), 745 (Broadway Rapid) and 750 (Ventura Rapid).

Metro will add service to 13 bus lines to enhance service for its patrons. Those lines receiving additional bus trips include Metro Lines 108, 161, 166, 209, 450X, 484, 490, 634, 710, 711, 740, 754 and 757. The added bus trips will occur mostly in the morning and afternoon peak periods. All day shuttle service between the Metrolink Sylmar Station and Mission College in the San Fernando Valley on Line 634 will operate on a 30 minute frequency and midday service on Line 209 (Van Ness Ave./Arlington Ave.) in the South Bay will be restored. Metro Bus Lines 4/304 (LA/Santa Monica) will have additional mid-day service added between Highland and Vermont.

Effective June 18 due to the closure of the Spring Street contra flow lane in downtown Los Angeles, Metro will reroute several bus lines that operated north bound along the contra flow lane, between 1st and 9th streets, to adjacent streets including Main and Hill streets and Grand Ave. The lines affected include: lines 83-84-85 (West Olympic Blvd.) Line 70-370 (Garvey Ave.) Line 38/71 (West Jefferson Blvd./City Terrace Dr.) 90/91 (LA-Sunland-Sylmar via Foothill Blvd.), 92 (LA-San Fernando via Glendale) and 94-394 (LA-San Fernando Rd./Sylmar).

Metro will combine Metro Rapid lines 780 (Hollywood/Glendale/Pasadena) and 717 (Fairfax Rapid) from the West Los Angeles Transit Center to Pasadena. The line will be renumbered to Metro Rapid 780.

Minor route adjustments or service modifications will take place on the following Metro Bus line effective Sunday, June 25. They include lines 102, 105, 158, 161, 183/234, 220, 230/239, 233, 442, 444, 446, 447 and 612. Sunday service on Line 220 will be cancelled.

In the South Bay area, planned terminal changes will occur on Line 439 (Redondo Beach/Downtown LA/Union Station) sometime in mid-July. The south terminal of Line 439 will be changed to the Metro Green Line Aviation Station during the peak hours on weekdays and all day on Saturday and Sunday. During the midday on weekdays, the south terminal will be changed to the LAX City Bus Center. Metro is partnering with Beach Cities Transit to have them take over and operate the southern portion of Line 439 from the LAX area to Redondo Beach. The exact date for implementation has yet to be determined.

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

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