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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro Bus Service Enhancements to Go into Effect Sunday, June 24 That Include Two New Metro Rapid Lines; New Metro Rapid Express Lines Debut Monday, June 25

Metro will implement a host of bus service enhancements beginning Sunday, June 24 and Monday, June 25 that will include the creation of two Metro Rapid Lines, two new Metro Rapid Express bus lines, two new lines in the San Fernando Valley and a new line between California State University, Los Angeles and Olympic and Indiana in East Los Angeles.

The two new Metro Rapid Lines include Line 704 (Santa Monica Blvd. Rapid) and line 760 (Downtown Los Angeles-Long Beach Blvd. Rapid) bringing the total to 18 rapid lines operating throughout LA County. Metro is expected to implement a total of 28 Metro Rapid Bus lines by mid-2008. The two new Metro Rapid Lines begin operations on Sunday, June 24.

New to Metro's service area will be the implementation of two Metro Rapid Express Lines 920 (Wilshire Blvd. Rapid Express) and 940 (Hawthorne Rapid Express) that will have fewer stops than traditional Metro Rapid lines providing even faster service in the morning and afternoon peaks periods only. The new Metro Rapid Express lines debut Monday, June 25.

The new Metro Rapid Express Service along Wilshire Boulevard will begin at Wilshire/Vermont with stops at Western, Fairfax, Beverly, Westwood and Fourth Street in Santa Monica. The new Hawthorne Metro Rapid Express service will have stops at the South Bay Galleria Transit Center, Metro Green Line Hawthorne Station, La Brea & Manchester Ave., King & Crenshaw, King & Vermont, Broadway & Sixth and Union Station/Patsaouras Plaza. This line will operate during peak hours and in peak hour direction only, operating northbound in the morning peak and southbound in the afternoon peak period.

The two new Metro Rapid Express lines are part of existing Metro Rapid Lines and are a demonstration project to see if further reducing the number of stops can greatly reduce travel times along these two busy transit corridors. Travel times are expected to be reduced by up to 15 percent one-way over traditional Metro Rapid service. If successful, Metro plans to introduce additional Metro Rapid Express Lines later this year as part of its overall Metro Rapid program.

In the San Fernando Valley, Metro will introduce new lines 290 ((Sylmar-Sunland via Foothill Blvd) traveling between Foothill and Mt. Gleason and Olive View medical Center and line 292 (Sylmar-Burbank via Glenoaks Blvd.) operating between the Burbank Metrolink Station and the Sylmar Metrolink Station.

In addition, line 665 (CSULA-Olympic/Indiana) will be operated between Cal State Los Angeles and Olympic and Indiana, seven days a week. Service on this line will operate to Olympic and Soto Street during the weekday peak periods only.

Metro plans to alter service, cancel some unproductive lines during the week and on Saturday and Sundays as well as shorten some selected bus lines to improve efficiency. Below is a list of the major service changes and service enhancements to take effect on Sunday, June 24 and Monday, June 25.

4-304 Santa Monica Bl > New Rapid Line 704 will replace service on Line 304, with alternative local service available via Santa Monica Line 1; Metro will retain evening and owl service to Santa Monica on Line 4.

10-11-48 Melrose Av-Virgil Av-Vermont Av- Temple St- San Pedro St> Consolidate trips on Line 11 into Line 10 and discontinue service on Line 11; Alternative service available via Metro Lines 14-714 on Beverly Bl and 204-754 on Vermont Av.

16-316 W 3rd St> Extend Line 316 limited stop service area to La Brea Av and shorten route at 6th St/Maple Av; Alternative service available on 5th/6th Sts between Maple St and Central Av via Metro Lines 18, 53, and

62; Alternative service on 3rd/4th Sts via Montebello Line 40.

20-21 Wilshire Blvd-UCLA- Santa Monica > Shorten Line 20 at Wilshire Bl/ Westwood Av; Retain late evening and owl service to Santa Monica on Line 20; Discontinue Line 21; Alternative service on Wilshire available via Santa Monica Line 2, Metro Rapid Line 720 and Metro Rapid Express Line 920; Alternative service on Westwood Bl available via Santa Monica Lines 1, 2, 3, 8, 12, Super 12, and Culver City Line 6.

55-355 Willowbrook- Downtown LA via Compton Av & Adams Bl> Extend route in downtown Los Angeles to Figueroa/Sunset.

60-360 Long Beach- Downtown LA> New Rapid Line 760 will replace service on Line 360, which will be discontinued; Modify Line 60 to terminate at the Artesia Blue Line Station except owl trips, (which will continue to Long Beach Transit Mall during this period); Alternative travel between Artesia Blue Line Station and Long Beach Transit Mall at other times provided by Long Beach Transit Lines 51 and 52.

65 Los Angeles- City Terrace via Washington Bl- Indiana St/Gage Av. > Line to be discontinued, with portions of existing line replaced by new Line 665 and Montebello Bus Line 50.

76 Downtown LA-El Monte> Convert Limited Line 376 trips to local Line 76 service in peak direction only (Eastbound in am and Westbound in pm).

90-91 Downtown LA- Sunland via Glendale Av, Foothill> Modify route to operate between downtown Los Angeles and Foothill/Fenwick; Operate new Route 290 service between Olive View Medical Center and Mt Gleason loop in Sunland.

92 Downtown LA- Burbank Metrolink Sta via Glendale Bl, Glenoaks> Modify route to operate between downtown Los Angeles and Burbank Metrolink Station; Operate new Route 292 between Burbank Metrolink Station and Sylmar Metrolink Station (See Line 292 for details).

119-126 108th St, Willowbrook> Continue operation of Line 126 and discontinue Line 119; Alternatives include Line 117 (Century Bl) and Line 120 (Imperial Hwy).

154 Tarzana-Burbank Metrolink Sta via Burbank Bl, Oxnard St> Saturday service discontinued due to low ridership.

155 Universal City Sta-Burbank Metrolink Sta via Riverside Dr, Alameda Av> Modify route to travel via Riverside Dr and Olive Av through the Burbank Media District; Discontinue selected late night trips and weekend service due to low ridership.

170 Montebello Town Center-El Monte Station> Replace service with the extension of Line 287 and discontinue service on Line 170.

176 Highland Park-El Monte Bus Station> Modify route to operate between El Monte Station and Highland Park, eliminating service between Highland Park Station and Glassell Park; Improved levels of service will be operated between El Monte and San Gabriel.

183 Sherman Oaks- Glendale Metrolink Sta via Magnolia Bl- Kenneth Rd-Chevy Chase Dr> (Branch of Line 234) Saturday and Sunday service between downtown Burbank and Glendale Metrolink Station to be discontinued due to low ridership.

239 Sylmar/ San Fernando Metrolink Sta- Encino via Rinaldi St, White Oak Av > Weekend service on Line 239 discontinued due to low ridership.

264 Duarte – Altadena via Sierra Madre Villa Sta/Duarte Rd> Modify route to operate into the Sierra Madre Villa Gold Line Station.

265 Lakewood – Montebello via Paramount Bl > New north terminal to be located near Whittier Bl and Durfee Rd; Service north of Rosemead/Whittier to be discontinued. Service to Montebello Mall discontinued. New north terminal established in Pico Rivera near Whittier Bl. And Durfee Rd.

267 El Monte via Temple City Bl & Lincoln Av> Modify route to stay on Del Mar Bl between Rosemead Bl & Sierra Madre Villa Av; This will remove direct service to the Sierra Madre Villa Gold Line Station due to low ridership.

275 Cerritos-Whittier via Artesia Bl- Valley View Av/ Carmenita Rd> Line 275 will be discontinued and replaced by Norwalk Transit Line 8.

287 Sierra Madre Villa Sta- Montebello Town> Extend the route of Line 287 south from El Monte Station to Montebello Town Center and replace Line 170.

290 New! Olive View Med Ctr-Sunland via Foothill Bl > New line replacing northern segment of Lines 90-91 between Olive View Medical Center and Mt Gleason loop in Sunland.

292 New! Sylmar/ San Fernando Metrolink Sta- Metrolink Burbank Sta via Glenoaks Bl> New line replacing northern segment of Line 92 between Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station and Burbank Metrolink Station; Combine with Line 155 weekday schedule.

353 Woodland Hills- No Hollywood Sta via Fallbrook Av, Roscoe Bl, Lankershim Bl> Operate as a branch route of Line 152-153; Extend route to provide local service west of Roscoe Bl/Topanga Canyon Bl to Fallbrook Av/Ventura Bl.

363 West Hills Med Ctr- No Hollywood Sta via Sherman Way, Lankershim Bl> Operate as a branch route of Line 163; Extend route to provide local service west of Sherman Way/Topanga Canyon Bl to West Hills Medical Center.

442 Hawthorne- Inglewood- LA Express> Service to be discontinued; Alternatives include Line 315 (Manchester Limited), Line 740 (Hawthorne Metro Rapid), new Line 940 (Hawthorne Rapid Express) and the Harbor Expressway.

577X Long Beach- El Monte- Norwalk Express> Extend route to Long Beach Transit Mall with new stops at Transit Mall, 7th St/Cherry and 7th St/Ximeno; Headway adjustments implemented during peak and non-peak hours.

622 Norwalk- El Segundo Owl Service> Service to be discontinued with alternative service available on Line 117 (Century Bl) and Line 40 owl route from LAX City Bus Center.

656 Panorama City- No Hollywood- Hollywood- Owl Service> (Branch of Line 156) Operate Route 656 trips between Tobias/Parthenia and Highland/ Santa Monica and schedule convenient transfer connections with Line 4-304 (Santa Monica Bl); Line 656 service between Highland and downtown Los Angeles to be discontinued.

665 New! Cal State LA-City Terrace Shuttle> New Shuttle service between CSULA and Olympic/Indiana seven days a week; Service extended to Olympic/Soto during weekday peak hours only.

684 Cal Poly Pomona- Brea Mall> Operate service only between Cal Poly Pomona and Brea Mall until September 2007; Foothill Transit will modify Line 193 to provide service to Brea Mall via Diamond Bar Bl in Sept 2007.

686-687 Altadena-Pasadena > Combine lines and modify route to operate along Colorado Bl, Fair Oaks Av and Raymond Av.

704 New! Santa Monica Bl Metro Rapid> Implement new Rapid service on Santa Monica Bl, operate into Patsaouras Plaza. Operates Monday – Saturday 5:45 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sundays from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

710 Crenshaw-Vine Metro Rapid> Change north terminal to Wilshire/Western Metro Rail Station and shorten route; Alternative service to Hollywood provided by Line 210 (Crenshaw-Vine) or Line 207 (Western Local) and Line 757 (Western Metro Rapid).

720 Wilshire-Whittier> Implement short turns in Westwood and downtown Los Angeles.

734 Sepulveda Metro Rapid> Establish new bus stop at Sepulveda Bl/Parthenia St.

751 Cypress Park- South Gate via Soto St/Pacific Bl> With implementation of new Rapid Line 760, shorten route to end service at Long Beach Bl/Palm Pl (just south of Florence Av) due to service duplication.

760 New! Downtown Los Angeles- Artesia Station via Long Beach Bl > New Rapid Bus service to operate between Artesia Blue Line Station and downtown Los Angeles; North terminal to be located at

5th/Beaudry. Operates seven days a week from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.

920 New! Wilshire Express > Implement new Rapid Express service between Wilshire/Vermont Red Line Station and downtown Santa Monica; Peak hour only with stops at Vermont, Western, Fairfax, Beverly, Westwood and Fourth Street. Operates Monday through Friday in both directions in peak periods only from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

940 New! South Bay Galleria- Downtown LA via Hawthorne BI, Crenshaw BI/ML King BI> Implement new faster peak period Rapid Express service via the route of Line 740; Stops include South Bay Galleria Transit Center, Hawthorne Metro Rail Station, La Brea/Manchester Av, King/ Crenshaw, King/Vermont, Broadway/6th and Union Station/Patsaouras Plaza. Operates Monday through Friday only making only north bound morning trips from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and afternoon south bound trips from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

In addition, extra service have been added during the weekdays on Lines 210, 460 & 705, additional service on Saturdays to Lines 460 & 745 and added Sunday service to Line 460. Metro Bus lines that have extended their routes include Lines 16-316, 484 & 577X.

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