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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro Rail Best Bet to See Los Angeles Marathon; Metro to Detour 78 Bus Lines Around Marathon Race Route March 2

For thousands of spectators who will attend the 23rd annual Los Angeles Marathon Sunday, March 2, Metro Rail will be the best way for viewing the runners.

The 26-mile marathon will start at 8:15 a.m. in Universal City and run through such neighborhoods as Hollywood, Mid-Wilshire, USC/Exposition Park, West Adams, East Los Angeles and end in downtown Los Angeles at Fifth and Flower streets.

Those planning to view the LA Marathon are encouraged to use the 73.1-miles of Metro Rail. People traveling from Long Beach, El Segundo, Norwalk, the San Fernando Valley, Hollywood, Pasadena, downtown Los Angeles and all points in between can enjoy the convenience of traveling in the Metro system and see all the highlights of this year's marathon.

The Metro Rail stations closest to the racecourse are: Universal City station, where the marathon will begin, Hollywood/Highland, Hollywood/Vine, Wilshire/Western, Wilshire/Normandie, Grand, Pico, 7th/Metro, and Pershing Square.

During the LA Marathon Expo held at the LA Convention Center on Friday and Saturday, February 29 and March 1, Metro will be selling \$5 day passes, valid on March 2, at the Metro information booth located at the entrance to the West Hall. Metro passes will be sold from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Spectators are encouraged to purchase their \$5 Metro day pass in advance to avoid anticipated long lines at the ticket vending machines at various Metro Rail stations. Proof of payment is required to ride the Metro Rail system.

Metro will operate Metro Red Line trains every six minutes during the early morning hours Marathon day leading up to the start of the race and then every 10 minutes up until approximately 4 p.m.

The Metro Orange Line in the San Fernando Valley also will provide great access to the Metro Red Line subway at the North Hollywood station for those in the San Fernando Valley wishing to see this year's LA Marathon. There will be no service changes on the Metro Orange Line.

Metro will reroute or detour 78 Metro Bus lines around the new racecourse. The service changes and detours for the Metro Bus System will occur between the hours of 4 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 2.

Metro Bus lines affected by this year's LA Marathon will include lines: 2, 4, 10, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 26, 28, 30, 31, 33, 35, 37, 38, 40, 42, 45, 48, 51, 52, 53, 55, 60, 62, 66, 70, 71, 76, 78, 79, 81, 83, 90, 91, 92, 94, 96, 102, 105, 150, 155, 156, 163, 180, 181, 200, 201, 204, 206, 207, 210, 212, 217, 224, 240, 333, 439, 444, 445, 446, 447, 460, 484, 485, 487, 490, 550, 603, 704, 720, 745, 750, 754, 757, 760, 780.

In the downtown Los Angeles area, Metro Bus operations will be impacted with no through service on Metro Buses provided between Western Avenue on the west, Third Street on the north, Soto Street on the east and Vernon Avenue on the south. Some Metro Bus service using the Santa Monica and Harbor freeways will continue to operate through the impacted area via those freeways.

Metro Buses traveling through this area will instead drop passengers off at nearby Metro Rail stations. Those stations include Wilshire/Western on the Metro Purple Line and Union Station on the Metro Red Line and Vernon and Grand on the Metro Blue Line.

All Metro Rail lines included the Metro Purple Line subway from downtown Los Angeles to Wilshire/Western, the Metro Red Line from downtown Los Angeles to North Hollywood in the San Fernando Valley, as well as the Metro Blue Line from Long Beach to Los Angeles, the Metro Green Line from Norwalk to El Segundo and the Metro Gold Line from Pasadena to downtown Los Angeles, will have added capacity to meet ridership demands.

On Sunday, March 2, Metro ambassadors will be available in Metro Rail stations to assist customers who need to transfer between bus and rail to reach their destination.

For detours and schedule information, visit Metro's web site at www.metro.net or call 1 (800) COMMUTE.

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