



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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Metro

News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro, City of Los Angeles Downtown L.A. Bike Share Program Surpasses 55,000 Rides in Less Than Three Months, Additional Expansions Planned

More than 55,000 rides have been taken on the Metro Bike Share program in downtown Los Angeles in less than three months of operation, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) announced today.

The downtown L.A. bike share system successfully launched on July 7. Metro is now planning to expand the program to more parts of L.A. County.

Of the 55,000+ rides logged, approximately 68 percent resulted from pass sales – people who purchased monthly or annual passes. The remaining 32 percent came from station walk-up credit card sales that Metro introduced on August 1. The \$3.50 walk-up fee was discounted to \$1.75 in August and September to encourage more people to try the bike share system.

“The results are in, and bike sharing is an unqualified success in downtown Los Angeles,” said John Fasana, Metro Board Chair and Duarte City Council Member. “We have averaged about 5,500 bike share rides per week in the first 10 weeks, which indicates a rousing start to the program. We expect bike sharing to continue to grow in popularity as more Angelenos discover the freedom, fun and utility that Metro Bikes provide for short-distance trips around the downtown area.”

There are now 61 stations in downtown L.A., with four additional stations planned in the coming year. Approximately 750 bicycles are in service, making it the largest bike share program in L.A. County.

“This is an incredible number of bike shares – it shows that if you build it, we will ride,” said Eric Garcetti, L.A. City Mayor and Metro Board Member. “The success of this program proves Metro's comprehensive approach to easing congestion countywide is working. As we're extending rail, adding new bus rapid transit, and fixing freeway bottlenecks we are also piloting new programs that give transit users more options for getting around town. Providing more options is how we'll build a world-class transportation system that meets the 21st century needs of our residents.”

The agency is now planning expansion of the program to more areas subject to Metro board approval next month. New locations now being planned include Pasadena, the Port of Los Angeles

and Venice. All three communities have indicated they are ready now to launch bike share and will be going to their respective councils for authorization. Costs will be shared between Metro and the communities. In each case, Metro is proposing to accelerate the arrival of bike share. The new locations could add 60 additional stations and 645 new bikes to the program. If approved by the Metro Board, L.A. County's Bike Share program could total 125 stations and 1,475 bicycles. The debut of bike sharing in these new areas is anticipated in summer 2017.

"The tremendous success of bike share downtown shows that when we give people options other than a car, they use them, and there are fewer cars on the road," said Mike Bonin, who serves as both a Metro board member and Chair of the Los Angeles City Council's Transportation Committee. "I am incredibly excited to welcome Metro Bike Share to the Westside, and can't wait to see my constituents using this awesome and convenient service."

Additional areas of the county would get bikes in later phases of the program, including North Hollywood, the San Gabriel Valley, East Los Angeles/Boyle Heights, Burbank, Glendale and other communities.

Metro is also working with the city of Los Angeles and community partners Los Angeles Bicycle Coalition and Multicultural Communities for Mobility to make the bike share program equitable and accessible to all. This work is being funded through a grant provided by the Better Bike Share Partnership. Metro will continue to report on this work and the outcomes of the grant-funded outreach.

"Our successful launch of bike share in downtown L.A. is the latest example of how we are easing congestion and providing innovative transportation solutions our county needs to keep moving," said Phillip A. Washington, Metro CEO. "Bike share is seamlessly integrated with transit via a single Metro TAP card, so it is truly easy to combine bicycle and transit trips. I encourage everyone to give Metro Bikes a ride for trips that are typically too far to walk and too short to drive."

Metro has an affordable, tiered fare structure that includes three simple pass options for the bike share program: a monthly pass for \$20 per month with all trips 30 minutes or less free and each additional 30 minute trip \$1.75; a Flex Pass for \$40 per year with all trips 30 minutes or less \$1.75, and each additional 30 minute trip \$1.75, and; a Walk-Up fee of \$3.50 for every 30 minute trip.

The agency is also the first major transportation agency in America to offer a card that allows access to both transit and bike share systems.

Metro Bike Share is operated by Bicycle Transit Systems, with bikes and stations provided by BCycle, a unit of Trek Bicycles of Wisconsin. These companies have successfully launched and/or operate more than 40 bike share systems in metropolitan areas in the United States and abroad.

For additional information about Metro's Bike Share Program, visit
www.metro.net/bikeshare.

About Metro

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is unique among the nation's transportation agencies. Created in 1993, Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that transports about 1.4 million passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines. The agency also oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related building projects and leads transportation planning and programming for Los Angeles County.

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