Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

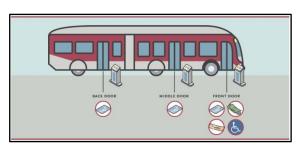


## News

October 31, 2017

Dave Sotero/Joni Goheen Metro Media Relations 213.922.3007/213.922.2700 mediarelations@metro.net FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## L.A. Metro Expands All-Door Boarding on Metro Rapid 720 and 754 Lines to Improve Speeds for Bus Riders



The Los Angeles County Metropolitan
Transportation Authority (Metro) Board has
approved the expansion of all-door boarding for
Metro Rapid lines 720 (Wilshire Boulevard) and
Metro Rapid 754 (Vermont Avenue) to provide

speedier trips for riders and reduce the time buses have to dwell at bus stops.

Riders will be able to board at any door of a bus – front, middle or rear – and will pay their fare by using the TAP fare validator installed at each door. Riders will no longer need to line up and wait to board at only the front of the bus. Metro will implement all-door boarding on Metro Rapid Line 754 in June 2018 and on Metro Rapid Line 720 in December 2018.

"Metro is committed to getting passengers to their destinations as quickly as possible — while making sure that safety is always our top priority," said Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti. "These improvements will expedite ride times and ease congestion on some of Metro's most popular Rapid Bus lines."

Those paying with cash or tokens will be able to board at the front door, where they will also be able to buy a TAP card and load it with fare. To encourage more people to use TAP cards, Metro will be handing out 50,000 free TAP cards on the 720 and 50,000 cards on 754 Metro Rapid lines during their respective launch months.

"This expansion of all-door boarding is just one of the many improvements we're making to the customer experience on Metro," said Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin, a member of the Metro Board of Directors and chair of Metro's Ad-Hoc Customer Experience Committee. "By decreasing wait times, the Metro Rapid service will attract even more customers and help take cars off the roads."

"As part of our promise to reimagine our bus services, all-door boarding is one of our strategies that will help these two lines operate much more efficiently," said Metro CEO Phil Washington. "By streamlining the boarding process, we will be helping save the precious

commodity of time for the tens of thousands of riders who depend on these services on a daily basis."

Metro Rapid Line 720 on Wilshire Boulevard carries about 29,019 boardings on the average weekday. Metro Rapid Line 754 line on Vermont Avenue carries about 20,674 boardings.

All door boarding began last year on the Metro Silver Line, where it has helped increase ontime performance by 10 percent.

For additional information, please visit metro.net.

###

## **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 1.3 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. Through its oversight of one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is changing the urban landscape of one of the country's largest, most populous counties.

Stay informed by following Metro on The Source and El Pasajero at <u>metro.net</u>, facebook.com/losangelesmetro, twitter.com/metrolosangeles and twitter.com/metroLAalerts and instagram.com/metrolosangeles.

Metro-135 (General)