

## Santa Is on His Way!

On a cold winter's night in 1997, Santa came to town on a Metrolink train for the first time. Thousands of curious families came out to greet the jolly old elf and see the 450-ton train decked out in 30,000 lights. Neither rain, nor cold, nor delays of up to three hours dimmed the smiles as Santa and his friends pulled into each station that first year.

This year, Santa will be celebrating the 10th annual Holiday Toy Express with a bigger train, more decorations, a new show, and a mission to collect more toys for the California Firefighters' "Spark of Love" toy drive than ever before.

On November 18, 2006, the 10th annual Holiday Toy Express™ will premiere in Lancaster. At every station, the jolly old elf himself, along



with Mrs. Claus and a cast of other characters, will perform a free show, then take time to meet the audience. This year's show promises new surprises for everyone.

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to your local Metrolink station to see the Holiday Toy Express—and when you do, be sure to bring along a new, unwrapped toy to donate to the "Spark of Love" toy drive.

Watch for the Holiday Toy Express coming weekend evenings this November and December to your neighborhood Metrolink station. Turn to page 3 of this month's *Metrolink Matters* for the November schedule. To get the full schedule, or to find out about alternative dates if your night has been cancelled due to rain call (800) 371-LINK (5465) or visit [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com). For more information about the California Firefighters' "Spark of Love" toy drive, visit [www.lafd.org/toyprog.htm](http://www.lafd.org/toyprog.htm) or [www.abctv.com](http://www.abctv.com).

Santa and all of his friends look forward to seeing you and your whole family at a Metrolink station near you. Happy Holidays!



## 5th Lead Cut-over

Reminder: On November 3, just after 6:30 p.m., the Centralized Track Control (CTC) signaling system in the Los Angeles Union Station area will be shut down for two weeks to upgrade the switching system and complete installation of a new lead track into the station. This means that all of the track switching normally done by remote control from our Operations Center will have to be done by hand. Metrolink switchmen will be out by the tracks hand-throwing the switches that route your train to the correct track.

Metrolink is planning to complete and test these upgrades in time to reactivate CTC on November 17, 2006. During the 14-day upgrade period,

please be aware that all trains entering and leaving Union Station should expect delays of up to 15 minutes. (Occasionally, in the face of unforeseen circumstances, delays may be even longer.)

We apologize for these delays and any inconvenience you may encounter as a result of the construction. Once completed, the new track improvements will help increase safety and decrease delays at Union Station.

For more information about the construction or Metrolink in general, please call Metrolink at (800) 371-LINK (5465).



## Thanksgiving Holiday Service

The holiday season is upon us, and Thanksgiving dinner with family and friends is only a train ride away. Metrolink is offering special savings on our Thanksgiving Day train services.

Beginning November 1, riders can purchase advance one-way and round-trip tickets for Thanksgiving Day service on the San Bernardino and Inland Empire–Orange County lines. Thanksgiving Day service will be operated only on the San Bernardino and Inland Empire–Orange County lines. Buy your tickets at any Metrolink Ticket Vending Machine (TVM) by pressing the ticket button that says, “**Thanksgiving Special Tkt.**”

Your round-trip ticket for November 23—Thanksgiving Day—is good for your return trip any day through Sunday, November 26, on the San Bernardino and Inland Empire–Orange County lines. Regular weekday service will resume on ALL lines on Friday, November 24. Regular weekday fares will apply for tickets purchased on Friday and regular weekend fares will apply for tickets purchased on Saturday and Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend.

- **San Bernardino Line**  
Receive 25 percent off regular weekday fares for one-way and round-trip tickets purchased for Thanksgiving Day (November 23).
- **Inland Empire–Orange County Line**  
Receive 50 percent off regular weekday fares for one-way and round-trip tickets purchased for Thanksgiving Day (November 23).
- **Metrolink/Amtrak—Shared-Service Trains**  
Metrolink ticket holders do *not* need reservations to ride the Ventura County Line shared-service trains operated by Metrolink (numbers 153 and 158) and Amtrak (numbers 799 and 768) from November 20 through November 24 (except Thanksgiving Day).
- **Special Kids Promotion—All Lines**  
Up to three children ages 17 and under may ride free with each paying adult, Thursday, November 23, through Sunday, November 26, 2006. *Children that ride free on Metrolink may be charged for connections on non-Metrolink service.*
- **Rail 2 Rail**  
Monthly passes will not be accepted on Amtrak Pacific Surfliner trains on blackout dates: Wednesday, November 22; Thursday, November 23; and Sunday, November 26. All passengers must have reservations and tickets purchased in advance to ride Amtrak trains from **November 21 through 27** (except for Metrolink/Amtrak shared-service trains).

From our family at Metrolink to yours, we extend our warmest wishes for a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday! If you have any questions or would like to know more about the special Thanksgiving train schedules, please contact Metrolink at (800) 371-LINK (5465) or visit our Web site at [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com).

(See Thanksgiving Schedule on Page 4)



## Sealed Corridors

As a Metrolink passenger, the last thing you want is to be involved in a grade-crossing accident. Even if no one is hurt, such an incident will likely entail a significant delay. Metrolink, committed to protecting lives *and* preventing delays, has embarked upon a comprehensive safety-enhancement program on our Antelope Valley and Ventura County lines. The ambitious sealed-corridor program will improve the safety of travel over 65 miles of railroad by sealing 63 grade crossings to prevent motorists and pedestrians from reaching the tracks.

SCRRA, in a strong partnership with the California Public Utilities Commission and local jurisdictions, is collaborating with technical experts and elected officials to improve grade-crossing safety in an expansive project corridor that stretches from downtown Los Angeles to San Fernando on the Antelope Valley Line and to Moorpark on the Ventura County Line. We plan to work with a broad coalition of stakeholders and to employ a mix of

## Safety Matters



Did you know that Metrolink provides a brochure called *Emergency Evacuation Instructions* that is available in the racks near the doors of every passenger car?

Here's a summary of instructions you should follow in the event of an onboard emergency:

- Listen for your conductor's instructions.
- Please assist fellow passengers in need of help.
- Leave bicycles, wheelchairs, and other bulky items behind.
- Evacuate to an adjacent passenger car.
- If an adjacent car is not accessible (or you are instructed to do so), then;



## Metrolink Holiday Toy Express™ Train Schedule

### Saturday, November 18

- Lancaster 5:00 p.m.
- Palmdale 5:45 p.m.
- Vincent Grade/Acton 6:30 p.m.
- Via Princessa 8:00 p.m.

### Sunday, November 19

- Tustin 5:35 p.m.
- San Juan Capistrano 6:55 p.m.
- Laguna Niguel / Mission Viejo 7:45 p.m.
- Irvine 8:30 p.m.

### Saturday, November 25

- Upland 5:00 p.m.
- Rancho Cucamonga 5:45 p.m.
- Fontana 6:40 p.m.
- Rialto 7:45 p.m.
- San Bernardino 8:30 p.m.

### Sunday, November 26

- Anaheim 5:15 p.m.
- Orange 6:00 p.m.
- Santa Ana 6:45 p.m.
- Fullerton 7:45 p.m.



conventional strategies and new technologies. In some cases, we may increase the length of medians to prevent people from driving onto the right-of-way; in others, we'll enhance signal systems or install additional gates. Many of the crossings will likely be widened to eliminate traffic backups over tracks, and we will consider future land uses along the railroad corridors to avoid potential grade-crossing and right-of-way problems.

We are currently bringing together key stakeholders who represent four sub-corridors within the project area. For the next several months, these stakeholders will work together to determine effective strategies for the sealed-corridor project in their respective areas. Metrolink expects to see strong plans for the project being developed within the next six months; construction on some parts of the project may begin within 18 months. SCRRRA's Antelope Valley/Ventura County program is one of the most ambitious urban sealed-corridor projects ever attempted.

**You can exit via the regular train doors by following these steps:**

- Break the plastic safety covering over the door release ring;
- Pull red ring down;
- Grip rubber between doors;
- Pull door open; and
- Exit with caution.

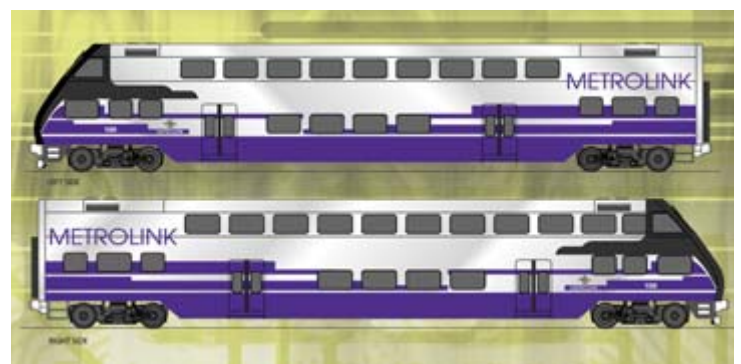
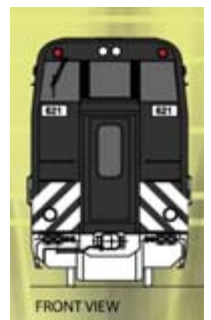
**You can exit through the emergency windows by following these steps:**

- Pull red handles toward you or pull ring to remove strip;
- Pull window toward you using both hands (windows are heavy, so remove with caution);
- Place window inside train; and
- Exit with caution.



## The Changing Face of Metrolink

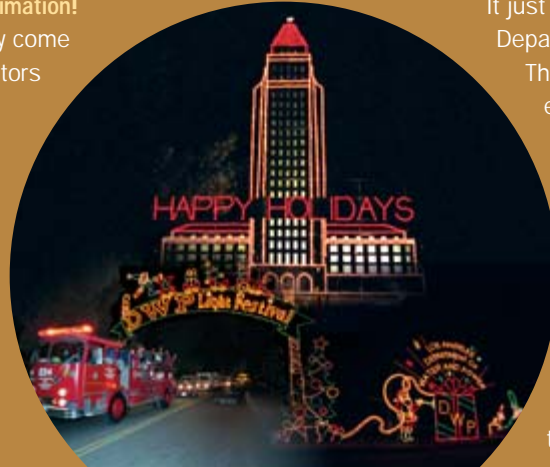
The next generation of Metrolink cars is currently in development. *Metrolink Matters* would like to offer our riders a sneak peak at the future of your commute with these artists' renderings of the train cars currently being built. We expect these new cars to begin entering service in December 2008.



Los Angeles

California Science Center Special Exhibit—Animation!

Explore how art, math, science, and technology come together in the exciting world of animation. Visitors will explore the process of animation from concept to finished product—from storyboarding, character design, and drawing techniques to movement, timing, filming, and sound. Larger-than-life graphics of popular Cartoon Network characters provide a colorful backdrop to the exhibit, which also explores the history of animation and features a screening room and a cartoon museum. Animation was developed by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in collaboration with Cartoon Network.

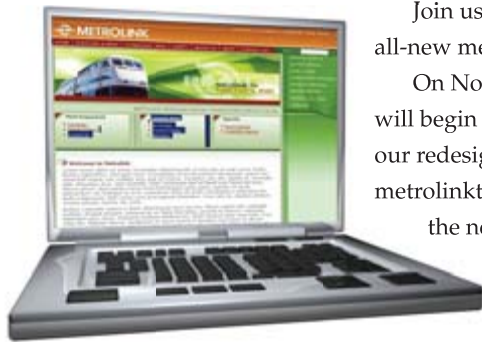


LADWP Holiday Light Festival

It just wouldn't be the holidays without the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's Light Festival.

The Light Festival in Griffith Park is open every evening from November 22 through December 30 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. This one-mile celebration of twinkling lights and music has become an LA tradition. Visitors can drive through in their own cars or take advantage of the warm and comfortable shuttle service. Shuttle service is available from the LA Zoo for the weekends of November 24 through 26, December 1 through 3, December 8 through 10, and each night from December 15 through 30.

Coming to a Screen Near You...



Join us for a sneak preview of the all-new metrolinktrains.com.

On November 20, Metrolink will begin offering a preview of our redesigned web site. Visit metrolinktrains.com for directions to the new site. We look forward to your visit.

Rail 2 Rail Blackout Dates

Reminder: Metrolink monthly passes will not be accepted as valid fare media on Amtrak trains on Wednesday, November 22, Thursday, November 23 and Sunday, November 26.

If you plan to use Amtrak service on those dates, please plan ahead and make an advance reservation for those dates. For Amtrak information, schedules, and ticket prices, visit www.amtrak.com or call (800) USA-RAIL.



Thanksgiving Day Schedule - November 23, 2006

INLAND EMPIRE - ORANGE COUNTY (IEOC) LINE

To Irvine	867	869	871	873	875	877
Riverside-Downtown	9:00 am	10:30 am	12:00 pm	1:30 pm	4:00 pm	6:00 pm
Riverside-La Sierra	9:10 am	10:40 am	12:10 pm	1:40 pm	4:10 pm	6:10 pm
North Main Corona	9:17 am	10:47 am	12:17 pm	1:47 pm	4:17 pm	6:17 pm
West Corona	9:24 am	10:54 am	12:24 pm	1:54 pm	4:24 pm	6:24 pm
Anaheim Canyon	L9:43 am	L11:13 am	L12:43 pm	L2:13 pm	L4:43 pm	L6:43 pm
Orange	L9:51 am	L11:21 am	L12:51 pm	L2:21 pm	L4:51 pm	L6:51 pm
Santa Ana	L9:56 am	L11:26 am	L12:56 pm	L2:26 pm	L4:56 pm	L6:56 pm
Tustin	L10:03 am	L11:33 am	L1:03 pm	L2:33 pm	L5:03 pm	L7:03 pm
Irvine	10:15 am	11:45 am	1:15 pm	2:45 pm	5:15 pm	7:15 pm

To Riverside	868	870	872	874	876	878
Irvine	10:30 am	12:00 pm	1:30 pm	3:00 pm	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
Tustin	10:37 am	12:07 pm	1:37 pm	3:07 pm	5:37 pm	7:37 pm
Santa Ana	10:43 am	12:13 pm	1:43 pm	3:13 pm	5:43 pm	7:43 pm
Orange	10:48 am	12:18 pm	1:48 pm	3:18 pm	5:48 pm	7:48 pm
Anaheim Canyon	L10:55 am	L12:56 pm	L1:55 pm	L3:25 pm	L5:55 pm	L7:55 pm
West Corona	L11:15 am	L12:45 pm	L2:15 pm	L3:45 pm	L6:15 pm	L8:15 pm
North Main Corona	L11:21 am	L12:51 pm	L2:21 pm	L3:51 pm	L6:21 pm	L8:21 pm
Riverside-La Sierra	L11:29 am	L12:59 pm	L2:29 pm	L3:59 pm	L6:29 pm	L8:29 pm
Riverside-Downtown	11:45 am	1:15 pm	2:45 pm	4:15 pm	6:45 pm	8:45 pm

L= Train may leave up to 5 minutes early.

San Bernardino Line—A regular Sunday schedule will operate.

100 Million Reasons to Celebrate

Enter to win one of seven January Metrolink monthly passes in celebration of our 100 millionth passenger.

A monthly pass will be awarded to one lucky passenger on each of Metrolink's seven lines: San Bernardino, Antelope Valley, Ventura County, Orange County, Inland Empire—Orange County, 91, and Riverside.

To enter, simply fill out the attached form and mail it to 100 Million Reasons Contest; 700 S. Flower St.; 26th Floor; Los Angeles, CA 90017. Your entry must be received before November 30, 2006.

100 Million Reasons Contest

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Line: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boarding Station: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Destination Station: \_\_\_\_\_

One entry per person and household. Photocopies and other reproductions of this entry form will not be accepted. Winners will be contacted by phone.

**METROLINK MATTERS**

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