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METROLINK Matters

October 2007

Metrolink News and Events

15 Years of Service

1992 was the year. Pete Wilson was governor of California, *Unforgiven* won the Oscar® for Best Picture, *The Real World* premiered on MTV, and, on October 26, Metrolink commenced service to a traffic-weary Southern California with trains from Moorpark, Pomona, and Santa Clarita to the newly refurbished Union Station in Los Angeles.

That date 15 years ago seems like just yesterday, but what a difference a decade-and-a-half make. Metrolink now spans 512 miles and 55 stations in six counties, carrying over 42,000 riders per day.

Metrolink would like to thank you, our riders, for making the past 15 years so successful. We hope you've enjoyed your commute with us, and look forward to sharing many more years to come.

Let's take a look back at some of the milestones that make up the years spent preparing for Metrolink and the past 15 years of Metrolink service:



<p>1989–1990 Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties approve sales taxes for transit</p> <p>1989 Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railroads put rights-of-way up for sale</p>	<p>1991 Southern California Regional Rail Authority formed; Metrolink named; rail cars ordered</p> <p>1992 Service begins on Ventura, Santa Clarita, and San Bernardino lines</p>	<p>1993 Riverside Line starts up</p>	<p>1994 Northridge earthquake; Antelope Valley Line (formerly Santa Clarita Line) service extended to Lancaster; Ventura County Line extended to Oxnard</p> <p>1994 Orange County Line opens</p>	<p>1995 Inland Empire—Orange County Line opens—nation's first suburb-to-suburb commuter rail service</p> <p>1995 San Bernardino Line debuts Saturday service</p>	<p>1997 Premiere of Metrolink's Holiday Toy Express</p>	<p>2001 91 Line opens, linking downtown Riverside, Fullerton, and downtown L.A.</p> <p>2001 Metrolink/Amtrak/Caltrans introduce Rail 2 Rail program</p>	<p>2005 Metrolink introduces Sealed Corridor program</p>	<p>2006 100 millionth rider</p> <p>2006 Metrolink awards order for the first passenger railcars in the U.S. with Crash Energy Management technology</p>	<p>2007 Groundbreaking for first Sealed Corridor program crossing</p>
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For more information, please visit the Metrolink Web site at www.metrolinktrains.com or call (800) 371-LINK (5465).

The Metrolink/Garfield Challenge

Metrolink has issued a challenge to the student body of East Los Angeles' famous James A. Garfield High School. As part of our 15th-anniversary celebration, we will take 100 students on an all-expenses-paid day of fun at Disneyland—but only students who have met the Metrolink/Garfield Challenge. To qualify to be one of the 100, a student must either be in the top 1 percent of his or her class or raise his or her grade point average by an entire point.

Garfield High in Los Angeles is probably most famous as the home of *Stand and Deliver* educator Jaime Escalante. Academic excellence is an ongoing theme of this school of nearly 4,600 students. Garfield High currently counts among its student body the top student in the country. The academic decathlon team is ranked ninth in the state.

Metrolink, on the eve of celebrating our 15th anniversary, decided that the Metrolink/Garfield Challenge would bring

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Party at the Buena Park Metrolink Station

Metrolink's newest station opened for service last month. To commemorate the Buena Park Metrolink Station's opening, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is hosting a special public event on Saturday, October 6, 2007. Everyone is welcome to come out and experience the new station firsthand. Enjoy refreshments, entertainment, music...and more!



Ride from any Metrolink station to Buena Park and enjoy Knott's Berry Farms "Everyone's a Kid" promotion. Everyone with a Metrolink ticket who rides on Saturday, October 6, can purchase a Knott's entry ticket for the kid's price of \$18.95. Free OCTA bus service to Knott's is available from the Buena Park Station.*

For more information on the event, visit www.octa.net or call (714) 636-RIDE. Metrolink schedules and fares can be found at www.metrolinktrains.com or by calling (800) 371-LINK (5465).

* Must present Metrolink ticket, with October 6 date stamped on it, at the Knott's ticket counter to receive special promotion price. One Knott's ticket per Metrolink ticket. Knott's will be open on October 6 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Promotion does not apply to Knott's Halloween Haunt tickets.



New Locomotives

Metrolink is happy to announce the purchase of 15 new locomotives from Motive Power Industries in Boise, Idaho. The new, streamlined locomotives are similar to the latest models that SCRRRA currently operates, but they are about 10 feet longer. The 3,600-horsepower locomotives are also cleaner and greener than current models, so they will produce notably fewer emissions.



Santa Ana Second Main Track Cut-Over

Bottleneck be gone! On the weekend of September 15, a stretch of track that has long frustrated some Orange County and Inland Empire-Orange County line riders became a site of smooth sailing as one of the last sections of single track on the Orange County Line was transitioned to double-track service.

The lone track, located between the Orange and Santa Ana stations, served trains in both directions. Every day, trains traveling in one direction would have to wait until an oncoming train cleared that section of track. With the cut-over last month, a one-way road has become a two-lane highway, allowing trains to travel in both directions simultaneously!

The Santa Ana Second Main Track project has been in the works for years to improve the 1.8-mile stretch of single track in the midst of a 50-mile double-track segment. Since the late 1990s, engineers and others have been working on environmental clearance and more to improve the situation. Over the last few years, design work was completed and construction has occurred. And about a year ago, the \$25 million construction project was green-lighted.

The project involved a significant amount of utility work on Lincoln Avenue, the site of a nice new wall. Improvements have been made to several other adjacent streets. When the project is finished, everyone who rides this stretch of railroad track will appreciate improved efficiency on the rails.



The Metrolink/Garfield Challenge

Together two groups of people to celebrate two great achievements: 15 years of first-class commuter-rail service and 15 weeks of outstanding grades.

The Metrolink/Garfield Challenge Train will roll on October 29 and will include charter-train "limo" service from Los Angeles to Anaheim, snacks on board, entry into Disneyland, and a Disney Dollar gift card good for meals and souvenirs. Department directors from Metrolink will welcome the kids on



Safety Matters

On a crisp Friday morning in September, in an effort to heighten awareness about the importance of rail safety, the Metrolink Safety Department and members of the Southern California Rail Safety Team worked with several law-enforcement agencies on an Officer-on-a-Train safety event along the Union Pacific and Blue Line tracks between 24th Street and Greenleaf in Los Angeles.

Officers from several law-enforcement agencies, including the Metrolink Division of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, were stationed at several vehicle and pedestrian railroad crossings along the tracks at Metro Green Line stations. Four hundred ninety-six citations were issued to pedestrians who ignored the lights and bells, which are known as active warning devices, at the pedestrian crossings. In addition, 19 drivers were issued citations as part of the event.

It is illegal to cross when the lights and bells are activated. Persons must wait until the active warning devices cease before crossing. Many passengers assume the crossing devices are activated by the train currently in the station. However, a second train that is out of view may be approaching the station using the tracks that are being crossed, resulting in injury or death of the person crossing the tracks illegally. The fine for crossing while the pedestrian warning devices are active is \$271.

We expect to see the first of the new locomotives on the rails later this year. Most of the new locomotives will be in service by early next year, with all of them expected to be on track by July 1. The arrival of the new locomotives will lead to expanded Metrolink service. With these 15 new locomotives, Metrolink will proudly get greener and more rider-friendly in one fell swoop.



(continued from cover)

board and talk to them about working on the railroad, exploring the jobs available to them and the type of education necessary to fill these positions.

With the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension opening a station just blocks from Garfield High, we hope that exposure to Metrolink will open up a whole new area of Southern California for these students to pursue their academic, career, and recreational goals.

Learn for Life

Certificates available in the following areas:

- Accounting
- Bilingual Specialist/Dual Language
- Construction Management
- Crime & Intelligence Analysis
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Early Childhood Studies
- Field Nature Studies
- Forensic Nursing
- GATE (Education for the Gifted & Talented)
- Geographic Information Systems
- Human Resources Management
- Interior Design
- International Education Programs (IEP)
- Interpretation & Translation, Professional
- Landscape & Turfgrass Management
- Land Use & Environmental Planning
- Marketing
- Microsoft Certified Professional Developer (MCPD)
- Paralegal Studies
- Project Management
- Teaching Certificates & Credentials
- TESOL & CLAD
- Workplace Health & Safety
- Yoga

Certificate Application Fee (\$50) waived for Metrolink Riders.*

For comprehensive lists of our Certificate Programs, complete course descriptions and locations, please visit our Web site.

*Proof of ridership required; limit one fee waiver per person.



For more information or to enroll:

Online: www.extension.ucr.edu

E-Mail: moreinfo@ucx.ucr.edu

Phone: 800.442.4990

In person: 1200 University Ave., Riverside, CA 92507

Kid Commuters

At 7:18 a.m. on weekday mornings, Leigh and Kate Nilsen, 4 and 2 years old, hop on the Antelope Valley Line at Santa Clarita and ride to Union Station. It's no big trip to them—they've been commuting via Metrolink since they were babies. Their father, Jon Nilsen, works near Union Station at the USC Health



Sciences campus, where on-site daycare is provided. He's been traveling to work on the train since just after Leigh was born, so he started bringing her along as soon as he could. As babies, the girls adjusted easily to the one-hour ride, sleeping most of the way in a BABYBJÖRN® carrier on Dad's chest. Needless to say, the girls have charmed fellow passengers, making numerous friends who look forward to sharing their daily rides with Leigh and Kate. Dad says one of Kate's first phrases was "downtown Burbank"—"she'd announce the train stop as we came in."



Weekend Getaway Contest

The new RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT BURBANK DOWNTOWN is opening in early October 2007. The new hotel, in easy walking distance from the downtown Burbank Metrolink station, is also just minutes away from over 50 restaurants, 200 shops, and multiple entertainment venues.

The RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT BURBANK DOWNTOWN is offering two lucky Metrolink riders a chance to win a free one-night stay plus breakfast. (Certificates are good for Friday or Saturday only.)

Enjoy a weekend getaway and take advantage of the oversized guest suites with cotton-rich white linens, thick mattresses, "more fluffier" pillows, fully equipped kitchens, and free wireless high-speed Internet access. Take a swim in the pool or pump up in the complimentary exercise room.

MARRIOTT Contest

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

E-mail: _____ **Phone Number:** () _____

One entry per person. All winners will be contacted by phone.

Simply visit www.metrolinkchancetowin.com to enter or fill out the entry form below and mail it by October 31, 2007, to Metrolink Matters, MARRIOTT Contest, 700 S. Flower Street, Suite 2600, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

COME CHECK US OUT!

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166 oversized guest suites and four premium Executive Suites, all with separate living, eating, sleeping and work areas. Fully equipped kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counter-tops. Living area with cable/satellite TV. Work area with large, well-fit desk, ergonomically designed chair and free high-speed wireless internet.

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METROLINK MATTERS

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