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Metrolink Train 111

Dear Readers,

We have all been touched in some way by the devastating collision of Metrolink Train 111 and a Union Pacific freight train the afternoon of September 12 in Chatsworth. Because you are valued members of the Metrolink family, we want to share with you some of the many actions Metrolink, its Board of Directors, and member agencies have enacted to help ensure your continued safety and security.

Our actions went first to the families and passengers directly affected by this tragedy. Metrolink's Board of Directors quickly and unanimously approved several actions in the immediate days after September 12, including creation of an ongoing Assistance Fund to provide an opportunity for the general public, businesses, and community members to offer their financial support to those affected by the collision and creation of an Assistance Fund using Metrolink resources to expedite payment of certain costs incurred by families.

And in recognizing our passengers on the Ventura County Line, the Board also authorized a passenger-compensation program to provide a complete refund for any rider who chose not to continue riding the train after September 12.

Reinforcing our commitment to you, our valued passengers, Metrolink has taken numerous steps to enhance our safety measures since September 12. They include: placing additional staff in our locomotives and lead passenger cars to be "another set of eyes" calling the safety signals alongside the engineer; establishing an independent rail-safety review panel to assess all aspects of Metrolink's operations and make forward-looking safety recommendations; evaluating new advanced-train-control technologies that have the potential to further reduce the likelihood of human error in potentially dangerous situations; and evaluating and updating the agency's

contract-oversight process and emergency-response plans. All together, the agency's continued focus on safety will help improve the safety of our rail service—and, ideally, will encourage other railway systems nationwide to adopt new critical safety programs.

Metrolink staff and Board members have also been working diligently with our Congressional representatives in California and Washington, D.C., to accelerate legislative support for rail safety and to encourage much-needed investment in our transportation infrastructure. With strong leadership from Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, important new legislation has been signed by the President, which mandates the installation of new train-stopping technology—known as Positive Train Control—on all major railroads and passenger and commuter railroads by 2015. The significance of this mandate benefiting railway passengers nationwide cannot be underscored enough. We greatly appreciate the support of our elected leaders who share our commitment to your safety and security, and who, like you, believe in the future of rail here in Southern California.

We know that many questions remain about the Chatsworth collision and that much more important work lies ahead. Metrolink and its Board continue to work closely with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) in their investigation into the cause of the tragic accident and to use our resources to help ensure this type of event does not reoccur.

As we develop new safety initiatives, we will continue to update you. This special issue features more information on how we have been addressing safety issues and how you can express your support for those families and passengers directly affected by the accident.

Metrolink greatly values your loyal ridership and we look forward to being part of your daily lives for years to come.

Schedule Changes

On October 27, Metrolink schedules will change on the San Bernardino and Antelope Valley lines as follows. All other schedules remain the same.

San Bernardino Line, Weekday Changes:

Four new trains are being added between San Bernardino and Los Angeles:

- Train 319, departing San Bernardino at 9:50 a.m.
- Train 302, departing L.A. Union Station at 7:45 a.m.
- Train 323, departing San Bernardino at 12 noon
- Train 306, departing L.A. Union Station at 10:10 a.m.

With the exception of the four new trains, all other San Bernardino Line train times are the same, but your train number may have changed. Passengers should check their schedules carefully—all eastbound trains to San Bernardino (except Train 300) have been renumbered to include the two additional new trains. Train 300 will now arrive five minutes later into San Bernardino. Westbound train schedules to Los Angeles are unaffected except for the two new additional trains and renumbering of some existing trains.

Also effective October 27, “directional running” will begin at the Pomona (North), Claremont, and Montclair stations. All westbound trains to Los Angeles will operate on Track 1; all eastbound trains to San Bernardino will operate on Track 2.

Antelope Valley Line, Weekday Changes:

Some train schedules have been adjusted to improve overall on-time performance. Train 207 will depart 10 minutes earlier and Train 214 will leave 13 minutes later at each station. Minor adjustments have been made to the schedules for trains 205, 215, 218, 221, and 223.

Antelope Valley Line, Weekend Changes:

Train 260 will depart Lancaster five minutes earlier for improved connections at Los Angeles Union Station.

Complete updated schedules are available on the trains, at the stations, and at www.metrolinktrains.com.

A NATIONAL CALL TO ACTION—PRESIDENT SIGNS NEW RAIL SAFETY LEGISLATION

On October 16, the President signed broad rail legislation with important safety provisions supported by Metrolink. Among its key mandates, the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 will require new safety controls on trains that will help reduce crashes. The President also signed the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008.

Key elements of the Rail Safety Improvement Act include the following:

Collision avoidance: Mandates installation of Positive Train Control (PTC) on major railroads and passenger and commuter railroads by December 31, 2015. The legislation includes a grant

program for deployment of various PTC technologies.

Increased penalties: Increases the maximum penalty for grossly negligent violations, or a pattern of repeated violations, to \$100,000, up from \$20,000.

Anti-fatigue measures: Prohibits freight train and signal crews from working in excess of 12 hours a day and 276 hours a month; requires railroads to develop fatigue-management plans through a mandatory risk-reduction program. Provides for a study of crew work-hour regulations for implementation with passenger railroads.

Training: Establishes minimum training standards for railroad workers; requires certification of conductors.

Locomotive cab safety: Permits the Federal Railroad Administration to ban cell-phone use, and other distractions, in locomotive cabs.

Grade crossings: Establishes a grant program to provide emergency grade-crossing safety improvements at locations where there has been a grade-crossing collision involving a school bus or multiple injuries or fatalities.

The bill also provides new authorizing legislation for Amtrak that nearly doubles the amount of annual funding and includes grants to states with Amtrak service, such as California, for capital improvements.

“The Metrolink Board of Directors applauds this action by the President to sign this landmark legislation into law,” said Board Chairman and Temecula City Council Member Ron Roberts. “It clearly articulates a long-needed commitment by our federal government to provide the resources to bring our transportation infrastructure into the 21st century.”

Show Your Support—New Funds to Assist Train 111 Passengers and Families

We know that many of you may be seeking a way to reach out and help the families and passengers who were directly affected by the September 12 collision. The Trains Collision Assistance Fund has been created as a new opportunity to provide direct financial assistance, and is being administered by The San Fernando Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley. Every dollar collected into the Fund will go directly to eligible recipients.

To make a contribution, please make your check or money order payable to:

SFV Community Foundation—Trains Collision Assistance Fund

Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley
5121 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite 200
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

For more information, please call (213) 452-0457 or visit www.metroinktrains.com.

Please support your neighbors in their time of need—make a direct contribution or, if you are a business owner, sponsor a fundraiser. All contributions are tax-deductible (subject to advice from your personal tax adviser).

The Chambers of Commerce of Simi Valley and Moorpark have also established funds to support those directly affected by the Train 111 event. Please consider making a contribution.

Train Victims Benefit Fund, Moorpark Chamber of Commerce

Visit any Wells Fargo branch or call (805) 529-0322.

Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce

Make your check or money order payable to:

Simi Valley Community Foundation—Metrolink Fund
40 West Cochran Street, Suite 100
Simi Valley, CA 93065

For more information, please call (805) 526-3900 or visit www.simivalleychamber.org/chamber/foundation.aspx.

IMPROVING TRAIN SAFETY—WHAT'S NEXT?

Metrolink has been a national leader in on-board, grade-crossing, and right-of-way safety since 1992. Metrolink is the first passenger rail operator in the country to design and have manufactured passenger cars with new crash energy management (CEM) technology. The agency is one of the first operators in the country to begin a Sealed Corridor Program on nearly 65 miles of the Metrolink system. And Metrolink has closed, grade separated, or improved dozens of rail crossings on the Metrolink system throughout Southern California.

Following the September 12 collision, Metrolink's Board of Directors unanimously approved a sweeping set of safety initiatives designed to further enhance the safety and security of our railway operations, our valued passengers, and the extended Metrolink family. Critical measures under way include the following:

The Board established the formation of an independent Commuter Rail Safety Peer Review Panel consisting of industry experts to make recommendations on the operation of the Metrolink system. The panel is focusing on all aspects of Metrolink's operations, including train operations, track and structure inspection and maintenance, signal inspection and maintenance, and vehicle inspection and maintenance provided by Metrolink staff and our various operating-contract service providers. The panel will submit its final report with recommendations in early December to the SCRRRA Board Ad Hoc Subcommittee, which consists of Director Richard Katz and Vice Chairman Keith Millhouse. The panel may also submit interim recommendations prior to its final report.

The Board approved development of an updated Crisis Communications Plan, an updated Emergency Preparedness Plan, and an Equipment Safety Review—all of which will assess current protocols and make forward-looking recommendations for improvements to enhance the agency's capacity to prevent, mitigate, and respond to any future crises.

Metrolink is developing short- and long-term strategies to place "another set of eyes" in Metrolink trains to provide support for the engineer in calling the signals—a safety measure already enacted immediately following the accident in almost 50 percent of our trains. The agency is also exploring the installation of video cameras in its cab cars to provide video-surveillance capabilities.

And in its continued efforts to accelerate the development and implementation of additional safety technologies, Metrolink is installing LEDs on all of its signals to improve their visibility and reliability; repositioning some signals to improve their visibility; analyzing locations for installation of Automated Train Stop (ATS) as another incremental improvement in safety; and working closely with the other railway operators who share our tracks and the supplier of evolving Positive Train Control (PTC) technology, as we work diligently to build the necessary infrastructure for this new train-stopping technology once it is ready for Southern California.





Holiday Toy Express 2008

The Holiday Toy Express™

The days are shorter, the nights are colder, and Santa is on his way! Metrolink is once again proud to be the official railroad of the North Pole as the 2008 Holiday Toy Express™ comes to a Metrolink station near you!

For 12 years the Holiday Toy Express™ has been a winter tradition for families all over Southern California. Over 50,000 twinkling lights and holiday decorations adorn a 650-ton Metrolink train that will be stopping at most Metrolink stations to do a free live stage show. This full theatrical production stars Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, elves, reindeer, and other characters who sing and dance just for you. The grand finale features “snow” and a few other surprises! After the show, Santa and all his friends will come out to say “hi” to all his fans while the sounds of live music keep the spirit going.

The fun kicks off with a giant party at the Baldwin Park Station on Saturday, November 22, then hits the rails to visit the rest of Metrolink’s stations on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays throughout the rest of November and December. Check the schedule in this issue for the day, time, and station near you.

Metrolink, along with ABC-7, is a partner in the Firefighters’ Spark of Love Toy Drive. Please remember to bring a new, unwrapped toy to give to the firefighters who will be at our stations. All toys collected will be distributed to families in need right in the cities where they were donated. What a wonderful way to say, “Happy Holidays.”

The Holiday Toy Express™ is a fun, magical experience you and your family will remember for years to come.

Although Santa laughs at bad weather, his train can’t run in the rain. In the event of inclement conditions, please call Metrolink’s customer service line at (800) 371-LINK (5465) to find out if your night will be rescheduled.

For more information on the Holiday Toy Express™, please visit www.metrolinktrains.com or call (800) 371-LINK (5465).

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

BALDWIN PARK	5:30 P.M.
CLAREMONT	7:00 P.M.
MONTCLAIR	7:45 P.M.
UPLAND	8:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

SIMI VALLEY	5:00 P.M.
CHATSWORTH	6:00 P.M.
NORTHRIDGE	7:00 P.M.
VAN NUYS	8:15 P.M.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

BUENA PARK	6:45 P.M.
NORWALK/SANTA FE SPRINGS	7:35 P.M.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

NORTH MAIN CORONA	5:00 P.M.
DOWNTOWN RIVERSIDE	6:45 P.M.
RIVERSIDE-LA SIERRA	7:45 P.M.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

PEDLEY	5:00 P.M.
EAST ONTARIO	5:50 P.M.
DOWNTOWN POMONA	6:45 P.M.
INDUSTRY	7:35 P.M.
MONTEBELLO/COMMERCE	8:30 P.M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

NEWHALL	7:30 P.M.
SYLMAR/SAN FERNANDO	8:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

TUSTIN	5:45 P.M.
IRVINE	6:30 P.M.
LAGUNA NIGUEL/MISSION VIEJO	7:30 P.M.
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO	8:30 P.M.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

SAN CLEMENTE NORTH	5:45 P.M.
CAMP PENDLETON USMC	7:15 P.M.
SAN CLEMENTE PIER	8:45 P.M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

DOWNTOWN BURBANK	6:15 P.M.
GLENDALE	8:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

RANCHO CUCAMONGA	5:15 P.M.
FONTANA	6:15 P.M.
RIALTO	7:45 P.M.
SAN BERNARDINO	8:45 P.M.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

MONTALVO	5:00 P.M.
OXNARD	5:45 P.M.
CAMARILLO	6:30 P.M.
MOORPARK	7:30 P.M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

COVINA	7:30 P.M.
EL MONTE	8:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

ANAHEIM	5:15 P.M.
ORANGE	6:00 P.M.
SANTA ANA	7:00 P.M.
FULLERTON	8:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

LANCASTER	5:00 P.M.
PALMDALE	6:50 P.M.
VINCENT GRADE/ACTON	7:45 P.M.
VIA PRINCESSA	9:00 P.M.

L.A. Clippers

Baron Davis leads a new Clippers roster for their Opening Day game against the Los Angeles Lakers on October 29. This new team will have your heart pumping, slam-dunking, and fast breaking—making you part of Clipper Nation this season!

The L.A. Clippers are one of the teams to watch this season, and Metrolink riders can SAVE 50 percent on \$35 (now \$17.50) and \$85 (now \$42.50) seats at select games this season (while supplies last). There are 12 games for you to choose from and two easy ways to save.

To receive your 50 percent discount, you can 1) show your valid Metrolink ticket at the STAPLES Center box office, or 2) go online to www.clippers.com, link from there to www.ticketmaster.com, and use the special promo code “train.”

October and November Game Dates:

- Fri., Oct. 31 vs. Denver 7:30 p.m.
- Mon., Nov. 3 vs. Utah 7:30 p.m.
- Wed., Nov. 12 vs. Sacramento 7:30 p.m.
- Mon., Nov. 24 vs. New Orleans 7:30 p.m.

For a full listing of the Clippers games for which Metrolink riders can receive the special 50 percent savings, go to www.metrolinktrains.com/clippers or call (800) 371-LINK (5465).

Metrolink, Metro, and Amtrak are the Official Transportation Partners of the Los Angeles Clippers basketball team for the 2008–09 season.

SAVE 20 PERCENT ON SPRING AWAKENING

Winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, *Spring Awakening* celebrates the unforgettable journey from youth to adulthood. This groundbreaking show has awakened Broadway like no other musical in years.

Metrolink riders can save on 20 percent on tickets to *Spring Awakening*, playing at the Ahmanson Theatre October 29 to December 7, for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening performances.*

To get your discount to *Spring Awakening*, show your valid Metrolink ticket or pass at the Ahmanson Theatre Box Office, or buy tickets by phone at (213) 628-2772 or online at www.centertheatregroup.org (use the promotional code “COMMUTER”). For more information on using Metrolink to get to the Ahmanson, visit www.metrolinktrains.com or call (800) 371-LINK (5465).

* Subject to availability. Offer excludes front orchestra seating and previously purchased tickets.



A Closer Look: Cell-Phone Usage by Engineers—What’s the Policy?

The use of cell phones and text messaging has been in the news around the September 12 collision, and we’re sure you want to understand what safety policies are in place...so here are the mandates all Metrolink train crews are required to abide by.

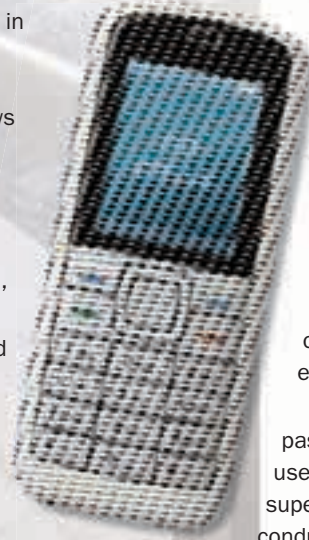
The use of electronic devices by train engineers while operating on-track equipment is prohibited by three separate entities—by the General Code of Operating Rules (GCOR), by Metrolink, and by Veolia Transportation, Metrolink’s operations contractor.

The GCOR is a uniform set of operating rules adopted by nearly all of the western railroads. A separate GCOR exists for other parts of the country.

Usage of cellular phones by train engineers while operating trains is also specifically prohibited by Metrolink’s Special Instructions, which are layered on top of the GCOR.

Veolia Transportation employees are further restricted by internal policies regarding the use of cell phones and other electronic devices while on duty.

All of these regulations were in place for several years prior to September 12, 2008.



In the aftermath of the September 12 collision, two new nationwide emergency orders regulating cell-phone usage were enacted. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued an emergency order banning cell-phone use by crews of trains under their jurisdiction on September 18, 2008. Two weeks later, on October 1, 2008, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Metrolink’s oversight agency, issued an emergency order restricting on-duty railroad operating employees’ use of cell phones and other distracting electronic and electrical devices.

The important thing for you to know as a passenger: while these orders strictly prohibit the use of cell phones by engineers, the FRA order—which supersedes any other orders—does permit the train’s conductor to carry a cell phone. In the case of an emergency where regular communications channels are down, the conductor carries a cell phone as an important back-up measure only—so that critical communications regarding safety and operations can reach the train crew if urgently necessary.

RAILROAD GRUB

SLIDEBAR IN FULLERTON

Fullerton residents in search of a rockin’ good happy hour need look no further. Just cross the parking lot at the Fullerton Metrolink Station and enter Slidebar Rock & Roll Café. With alternating karaoke and live-music entertainment on weeknights, the outdoor patio at this rock-themed haunt is a favorite of Fullerton commuters. In fact, not one but three *Metrolink Matters* readers wrote in to recommend it. It’s a great place to meet friends and unwind after work, they say.

Slidebar isn’t just a bar. They offer a full menu, with favorites including macaroni and cheese, seared ahi tuna, more than a dozen different kinds of salad, and entrees such as steak and baked mahi mahi. Locals also recommend the Sunday Brunch. There’s an arcade, indoor and outdoor seating, and lively décor featuring rock ‘n’ roll memorabilia. (Plus, their Myspace page promises, some of OC’s most famous rockers are known to hang out here.)

For good food and drinks, and live entertainment by local as well as big-name acts, don’t miss Slidebar. Slidebar is located at 122 E. Commonwealth Avenue in Fullerton, just across the Fullerton Station parking lot.



INSIDE THE 2008 METROLINK ANNUAL PIN



Metrolink’s 2008 pin designers

In celebration of Metrolink’s anniversary, there is a systemwide annual-pin distribution for passenger appreciation. Many of our longtime riders have already accumulated a collection of uniquely designed pins.

The inspiration for the design and theme of Metrolink’s 16th anniversary pin came from a team of Metrolink interns, Will Cooper, Ramzi Ibrahim, and Lisa Ng. The interns decided that this year’s pin would carry a green message, in recognition that Metrolink passengers help the global environment by reducing carbon footprints. After months of collaboration and coordination, the green pin is now a reality. To find the pin distribution date at your station, visit www.metrolinktrains.com.

L.A. KINGS

Once again, the LA Kings have partnered with Metrolink, Metro, and San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) to bring you an even better ticket package with ten dates to choose from! These special **Hockey Night Out** game packages will include two Kings tickets, two beers, and two nachos, starting at just \$52.

Don't miss all the exciting action on the ice with the Los Angeles Kings under the leadership of their new coach, Terry Murray.

San Bernardino Line riders: If you are going to a Saturday game, save yourself the hassle of traffic and parking in downtown L.A. by riding the train. You won't have to worry about overtime, as the late-night Saturday train departs Union Station at 11:30 p.m.

To order, call (888) KINGSLA or log on to www.lakings.com; select tickets; click "single tickets," then "Hockey Night Out."

Kings Hockey Night Out Game Dates:

- Thurs., Oct. 30, 2008 Vancouver 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Nov. 6, 2008 Florida 7:30 p.m.
- Sat., Nov. 15, 2008 Nashville 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Nov. 20, 2008 Washington 7:30 p.m.



- Fri., Dec. 5, 2008 Edmonton 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 11, 2008 St. Louis 7:30 p.m.
- Sat., Jan. 3, 2009 Philadelphia 7:30 p.m.
- Sat., Jan. 10, 2009 New Jersey 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Feb. 12, 2009 Calgary 7:30 p.m.
- Sat., Apr. 4, 2009 Phoenix 7:30 p.m.

Ticket Discounts

Metrolink Card-Holder Benefits: Riders, remember to show your Metrolink ticket or pass and save \$10 off tickets to any L.A. Kings home game* at the STAPLES Center box office.

Metrolink, SANBAG, and Metro are the Official Transportation Partners of the Los Angeles Kings hockey team for the 2008-09 season.

*Blackout dates apply: October 12, November 22, December 17 and 26, 2008; January 3, 8, and 15, and April 11, 2009.



Jules Verne Film Festival Returns to Downtown L.A.

To Explore and Preserve Our Planet

Share in a global mission to preserve the planet through a unique film festival. The Jules Verne Adventure Film Festival will run from October 23 to 26, 2008, at the Million Dollar Theater in downtown Los Angeles. The festival is dedicated to Exploration, Education, Imagination, and Earth Conservation! These themes will be explored through the spirit of Jules Verne novels, based on adventure to the depth of the oceans, the center of the Earth, and outer space.

During the Jules Verne Film Festival a new group of individuals will be recognized for their contributions and efforts to encourage the spirit of adventure through film, arts, technology, and conservation. Some of the highlights of the film festival include special screenings of great classics and new adventure or sci-fi movies. For more information on the special events and screenings, including locations, schedules and ticket prices, go to www.jvaff.org.

Metrolink riders will receive a special 2-for-1 ticket offer at the box office for all shows. Just show your valid Metrolink ticket or pass to receive your discount, and you'll be on your way to a day of adventure! For more information on the Jules Verne Adventure Film Festival ticket discounts, go to www.metrolinktrains.com and click on "Special Events."



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Patina at West Creek

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TEVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT IT.



They're saying how convenient it is. Everything's right there – the gym, business center, the pool, even the Metrolink, just a few minutes away. They're talking about the great financing through UAMC of California with as low as 3% down* and low monthly payments. Yes, the Madison in the heart of Town Center makes living the urban lifestyle easy and affordable.




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METROLINK MATTERS

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