

METROLINK MATTERS

METROLINK NEWS AND EVENTS



Grab your bike and go green with Metrolink

Spring is in the air, so why not break out your bike and explore all the bike events and beautiful attractions that Southern California has to offer? Metrolink is bike friendly and can take you to many places.

We operate 12 Bike Cars on select lines, and each of our special Bike Cars can hold up to 18 bikes on the lower level; all other Metrolink cars can hold up to three bikes. Our Bike Cars are easily identified by the yellow decal located on the side of the train or our decorative train wraps.

Remember, Metrolink tickets are good for free connections to most rail and bus lines throughout Southern California.

CicLAvia returns: put your car keys away and sightsee LA the right way

April 15 marks the return of CicLAvia. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. CicLAvia is a green initiative that allows an escape from stressful traffic. It also gives communities an opportunity to connect in ways that aren't possible when they're in their cars. So park your car and enjoy 10 miles of car-free streets where you can see historical landmarks, art, performances, music and interactive activities that are suitable for people of

all age ranges. There will be food and drinks provided by food trucks, restaurants and neighborhood pit stops. Visit ciclavia.org for more information about the route and activities.

Celebrate National Bike Month

May is National Bike Month, and people all over the country will be trading in their cars for two wheels and handlebars. Riding a bike is not only a great environmentally friendly alternative, but it also has added health benefits. On page 2 are a few bike events happening in your area.

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Metrolink Monthly Pass holders can soon ride the FlyAway for FREE



Later this month, Metrolink Monthly Pass holders with a flight boarding pass will be able to hop aboard an L.A. Union Station FlyAway bus to or from LAX at no additional cost. FlyAway buses run every day of the year and every 30 minutes during peak hours. This adds another great benefit to being a Metrolink Monthly Pass holder and is the simple, cost-effective way of getting to and from LAX. The free transfer only applies to an L.A. Union Station/LAX FlyAway trip (Irvine, Westwood and Van Nuys excluded).

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UPCOMING TRAIN EVENTS

San Bernardino Railroad Days

Fullerton Railroad Days

National Train Day

(See page 4)

A word from the CEO

Greetings, Metrolink riders.

Springtime has just begun. It is a great time to explore Southern California with family and friends now that the weather is warmer. Whether you're a student planning to travel for spring break or a parent planning a weekend outing with your kids, Metrolink has affordable ticket options that can work for you.



Metrolink CEO John E. Fenton

We will offer service to many springtime events for the next two months, giving you a safe, peaceful alternative to stressful, bumper-to-bumper traffic. Some notable events we will offer service to are the Amgen Tour of California, where you can watch some of the best athletes in the world go head-to-head in one of the biggest race events in the country; National Train Day, San Bernardino Railroad Days and Fullerton Railroad Days, where you can have fun learning about railroad history and how the railroad industry continues to evolve; and Fiesta Broadway, where you can join hundreds of thousands of people in the streets of LA to celebrate Latino culture. You can ride our trains to many other popular destinations like Disneyland, Six Flags, Universal Studios Citywalk and Olvera Street. We also have special Bike Cars for bike riders who want to ride our trains to big bike events like CicLAvia or venture out to many popular bike trails that lie along the Metrolink system.

Metrolink encourages you to continue going green with us. We offer a variety of discounts, including for youth, students, active military, seniors and people with disabilities; we just worked out a deal that will allow Monthly Pass holders to ride the FlyAway shuttle to and from LAX for free; and we offer a \$10 Weekend Pass that allows you to travel anywhere service is offered from 7 p.m. on Friday until 11:59 p.m. on Sunday. Remember, you can ride Metrolink for free during weekends if you are a Monthly Pass holder, so bring a friend or family member along to explore the region. Visit our website to learn more about our ticket options.

Grab your bike and go green...

(Continued from page 1)

- **Los Angeles County:** 18th annual Bike to Work Day, May 17, organized by the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro). It's part of L.A. County's Bike Week LA, which is May 14 to 18. For more information about the event, visit metro.net/bikes/bike-week
- **Orange County:** OCTA's Bike to Work Month (includes a variety of events). OCTA Bike Festival, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Huntington Beach Pier Plaza. Bike Rally, May 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Bike to Work Week takes place later in the month, May 14 through May 18. More information is available at octa.net/bike



Can't make it to these events?

Then consider celebrating

National Bike Month by riding

Metrolink to the many beautiful bicycle trails that Southern California has to offer. Download bike routes at metrolinktrains.com/bikes.

Watch the world's top athletes compete at Amgen

Ride Metrolink to the Amgen Tour of California, the country's most successful cycling race. The free eight-day event, which will take place May 13 through 20, will feature the best professional athletes and teams from around the world. Some of the goals of AEG, the company that puts on the event, are to promote road cycling, healthy living and bicycle safety, and also to increase tourism and economic development within the local communities that host the race.

Take Metrolink to L.A. Union Station and transfer for free to Metro Rail to get to L.A. LIVE, where you can see the cyclists cross the finish line on May 20. The cyclists are expected to arrive at about 11:50 a.m. For information on the tour, visit amgentourofcalifornia.com

Tell Metrolink about your bike events

Have a big bike event coming up? Let Metrolink know so we can try to accommodate you. Contact us at metrolinkmatters@scrra.net



Dana Zook Photography



Events and promotions



Celebrate Latino culture at Fiesta Broadway

The largest Hispanic event in our country's largest Hispanic market happens at the end of April. Fiesta Broadway, an annual event that showcases Latino music and culture, has been dubbed the largest "Cinco de Mayo" celebration in the world. On April 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., hundreds of thousands of festival-goers will roam 12-square blocks of downtown Los Angeles. There will be lots of food, music and dancing. For more information, visit fiestabroadway.la

View *Cleopatra: The Exhibition* at the California Science Center

From the producers of the King Tut exhibit hails *Cleopatra: The Exhibition*. It will be the West Coast's only showing of the 13,000-square-foot exhibit that will showcase the largest collection of Egypt's Cleopatra-era artifacts ever assembled in the U.S. Take Metrolink to the exhibit and receive a special discount on admission at the box office. Your Metrolink ticket will give you \$3 off adult tickets to the exhibit, and you save \$5 when you purchase the combo package that includes admission into the exhibit and the IMAX movie "Mysteries of Egypt." You can also receive an online discount on tickets when you purchase them via the California Science Center's website (californiasciencecenter.org) and use the special code "trains." Visit the California Science Center's website or call 213-744-2019 for more information.



Mark your calendar for three days of Lemon Festival mania

Take Metrolink's San Bernardino Line to the City of Upland for the 14th annual Lemon Festival, "3 DAYS WHERE LEMON IS KING." The event takes place on April 27 from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m., April 28 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and April 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eat great food; compete in the lemon pie eating and Lemon Idol contests; enjoy carnival rides; bring your kids to the fun zone where they can paint, play games, take train rides and take part in other fun activities; and get into the groove during the many musical and dance performances. Entry into the festival is free, but there is a charge for some activities. For more information, visit uplandlemonfestival.com or call 909-931-4399.



Use the \$10 Weekend Pass for weekend outings

For only \$10, you can ride anywhere throughout the Metrolink system where weekend service is offered, from 7 p.m. on Friday until 11:59 p.m. on Sunday. Our \$10 Weekend Pass is available at all Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs) during that timeframe. To purchase it, select "Special Ticket," then "\$10 Weekend Pass." Check our website for departure times.

Note: Monthly Pass holders can ride our trains for free on weekends. So grab a friend or family member who can travel with you for only \$10.



Come celebrate all things railroad

Come explore the railroad of the past, present and future at three exciting, family friendly, fun-filled weekend events.

San Bernardino Railroad Days

The fourth annual San Bernardino Railroad Days extravaganza will take place Saturday, April 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, April 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All the excitement

will happen at the Santa Fe Depot (1170 W. 3rd St.), right next door to the Metrolink San Bernardino Station. There will be food; western-themed re-enactments; model railroads; antique trains, trucks and cars; and a host of other fun activities for both adults and children. There is a fee for some activities.

The historic #3751 Steam Engine will be on display, and you can ride it Saturday at approximately 9 a.m. from L.A. Union Station to the San Bernardino Station or Sunday at 3 p.m. from the San Bernardino Station to L.A. Union Station. Ticket prices range from \$80 to \$115.

The San Bernardino History and Railroad Museum, located at the Santa Fe Depot, will be open to the public both days free of charge. Railroad memorabilia, fire engines, antique horsedrawn buggies and other historical items will be on display.

Come dressed in western attire, and don't forget to bring your camera so you can capture memories of all the excitement.

To purchase tickets online, visit sbdepotmuseum.com. You can also purchase tickets at the museum on Saturdays* from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact the museum at 909-888-3634 or sbrrdays@me.com.

**Tickets will not be available for purchase on the day of the event.*

Fullerton Railroad Days

After a three-year break, the Fullerton Railroad Days event is back on the scene, and you won't want to miss it. The fun lasts from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both Saturday, May 5, and Sunday, May 6, at the Metrolink Fullerton Station (120 E. Santa Fe Ave.).

The free event will feature a modern BNSF freight locomotive, vintage passenger cars and cabooses, a fire engine accompanied by its very own watchful dalmatian and more than 40 booths and displays that include vintage photographs and historic train depot models. You'll have the chance to tour "famous" special equipment, including the "Lilly Belle," an observation car named after Walt Disney's wife, Lillian.

For more information, visit scrpa.net, email info@scrpa.net or call 714-278-0648.

National Train Day

Come out to L.A. Union Station on Saturday, May 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Amtrak's fifth annual National Train Day. Each year the celebration spotlights passengers' experiences beholding America's beautiful, vast landscape while traveling comfortably by rail.

The event will include a wide array of train equipment displays, including Metrolink equipment; a depot where children can build, explore and compete for prizes; model train displays; K-9 unit demonstrations; a high-speed rail display that offers a glimpse into the future of high-speed rail; live cooking demonstrations by Amtrak celebrity chefs with the chance to taste free samples; and much more. Metrolink will have a booth at the event where you can pick up Metrolink giveaways.

Visit NationalTrainDay.com for more information.



METROLINK SAFETY ALWAYS MATTERS

Tips to be safe all the way home...

The safety of our passengers is one of Metrolink's primary concerns. In our last issue, we reviewed ways to be safe on the platform and on board the train. This time we will share safe driving tips. According to data collected by the Federal Railroad Administration, California once again leads the nation in fatalities as a result of grade-crossing collisions. Please observe the following guidelines when driving your vehicle around Metrolink tracks and station parking lots:

In parking areas:

- Be aware of fellow commuters walking to and from their vehicles.
- In parking lot areas, never drive faster than the posted speed limit or 15 miles per hour if no limit is posted.
- Watch for vehicles backing out of parking spaces.

At railroad crossings:

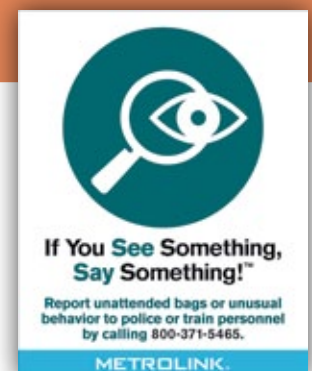
- When you approach an active railroad crossing, be patient and always yield to the train. This means never racing a train to the crossing; trains move faster than you think, and if you see a train approaching you should wait for it to proceed before crossing.
- Never stop your vehicle on railroad tracks. Remember that a train cannot stop quickly or swerve to avoid hitting your vehicle.
- Be aware that some vehicles must stop before they cross railroad tracks. These vehicles include transit buses, school buses and trucks transporting hazardous loads. When following these vehicles, be prepared to allow them to perform the required safety stop. Don't follow too closely.



- Remember that flashing red lights at a railroad crossing mean STOP! Stop at least 15 feet, but not more than 50 feet, from the nearest track when the crossing devices are active. Stop if you see a train coming or you hear the whistle, horn or bell of an approaching train.
- Quiet Zone areas do not require locomotive engineers to sound their horns at crossings. Crossings in Quiet Zone areas have "NO TRAIN HORN" signs posted.
- Never drive under lowering gates or around lowered gates. Flashing red lights indicate you must stop and wait. Do not proceed over the crossing until the red lights stop flashing, even if the gate rises. If the gates are lowered and you do not see a train approaching, call the posted railroad emergency toll-free number or 9-1-1. Be ready to give the crossing name and the Department of Transportation (DOT) number for identification purposes.
- Only approach and proceed through the crossing when you are sure that you can cross the tracks completely without having to stop.
- When crossing tracks, always do so at a designated crossing, look both ways and cross quickly without stopping.
- Stay alert as you approach railroad crossings. This means no texting, GPS devices, headphones or other distractions that would make it difficult to hear an approaching train.

Help Metrolink keep you safe and secure

If you spot a hazardous condition or situation (e.g., unattended baggage or unusual behavior) at a Metrolink station or on board the train, please report it to the on-duty security guard, a law enforcement officer who is present or train personnel such as a conductor or customer engagement representative, or contact our call center at 800-371-5465 (LINK). We appreciate your cooperation in helping Metrolink keep you safe and secure.





Congress debates transportation reauthorization bill

Congress has been working towards adopting a new surface transportation reauthorization bill. The current Transportation Authorization, called SAFETEA-LU, initially expired in September 2009; however, it has been extended repeatedly as legislators develop a new bill. Recently, the Senate approved a \$109 billion surface transportation reauthorization bill called MAP-21 that will fund two years of transportation projects and programs. This is a bill that was developed by Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chair Barbara Boxer (D-California).

Some components of the rail title that impact Metrolink include:

- **Positive Train Control (PTC)** – The bill includes a provision that would authorize the Secretary of Transportation to provide one-year extensions on PTC implementation on a case-by-case basis. The proposal allows up to three one-year extensions. Metrolink is fully committed to implementing PTC in advance of the current 2015 deadline.
- **Commuter-Tax Benefit** – The bill includes a one-year extension of the commuter-tax benefit that would provide up to \$230 for employers to provide to their employees that take public transit to work. The commuter-tax benefit expired at the end of 2011 and reverted back to \$125. This extension will restore the commuter-tax benefit to the higher level. Metrolink encourages you to communicate with your members of Congress to advocate for this benefit. Please refer to the American Public Transportation Association's website for information: apta.com

On the House side, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman John Mica had been trying to build support for a \$267 billion transportation bill that would fund programs over five years. There were issues in this proposal that created divisions among the members, including the proposal to redirect the motor-fuel tax and eliminate the Mass Transit Account. This proposal caused great controversy among members of Congress from both sides of the aisle. As a result, this proposal was withdrawn.

We anticipate that an extension will be approved by Congress to allow for additional time to negotiate a final bill.

Reading on the rails



In our last issue of *Metrolink Matters*, we asked you what you are reading out there on the rails. Well, the poll is in. Here are five of the books riders are reading:

- *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
- *The Bible*
- *Mother of Pearl* by Melinda Haynes
- *Dr. Tom's War: A Daughter's Journey* by Lucia Viti
- *Pearl's Secret: A Black Man's Search for His White Family* by Neil Henry

...ride the FlyAway for FREE

(Continued from page 1)

L.A. Union Station

- FlyAway buses are located at Patsaouras Transit Plaza at L.A. Union Station.
- Visit the FlyAway kiosk and present a valid Metrolink Monthly Pass and proof of a flight to or from LAX for that day (electronic or print version accepted).

LAX

- Look for the green signs that indicate a FlyAway stop.
- Board the FlyAway. Make sure you are boarding the FlyAway that says "Union Station."
- After returning to L.A. Union Station, visit the FlyAway kiosk and present a valid Metrolink Monthly Pass and proof of a flight to or from LAX for that day (electronic or print version accepted).

Check metrolinktrains.com to find out the official date Metrolink Monthly Pass holders can start riding the FlyAway for free.

METROLINK MATTERS

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