

Another Kinkisharyo light rail vehicle begins testing on the Green Line

BY ANNA CHEN , JANUARY 21, 2015



A new Kinkisharyo light rail car being transported from Palmdale to the Metro Green Line for testing. Photo: Metro

Sharp-eyed train spotters along the Metro Green Line might see the second of the [new Kinkisharyo light rail vehicles](#)

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transported last night from the assembly facility in Palmdale. The Kinkisharyo P3010 is the new generation car being assembled in Palmdale and will see service on the Metro Expo and Gold Line.


The first Kinkisharyo 3010 pilot car went into testing on October 17, 2014 along the Metro Green Line. Many months of testing will be conducted before delivery of 175 new rail cars (78 in the initial order and another 97 from exercising two options).

Purchase of the light rail vehicles and expansion of the Gold and Expo lines are largely funded by Measure R, a half-cent sales tax increase approved by two million Los Angeles County voters in 2008, with additional funding from state and other sources.

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 15 replies >

I just got back from a trip to the East Coast and stayed in Jersey City, NJ for most of the time. They have a light rail line there with Kinkisharyo vehicles. I tell ya, those things are slick and smooth. We are in for a treat when those new cars start running on the Metro.

Are the Kinkisharyo cars any wider than the cars currently in use on the Gold Line? I hope so, because I'm 5'11" 170 (i.e. not a huge guy) and I find those trains very cramped. The seats are narrow, with insufficient legroom. Would like to see trains more like those in use on the Red Line.

Hi Carl,

I can't remember the exact specs, but the new cars have seats that are a little bit wider. Anecdotally, as a person who rides the Gold Line regularly and has also sat in the new rail car, it doesn't feel any different though. 😞

Anna Chen
Writer, The Source

can we get video of this please?!

Will work on that, although there's really not much to see. It's similar to normal train service, except the test car goes a little slower in certain areas.

Anna Chen

Writer, The Source

The MBTA Green Line's 3600-series and 3700-series cars are by Kinkisharyo. So is the current active fleet of the VTA, in San Jose. Ditto for Sound Transit's line running between Seattle and Sea-Tac Airport, and Dallas's entire DART trolley fleet (except for the various and sundry antique cars running on the free McKinney Avenue M-line).

Please replace the Red and Purple line trains also. They are so dirty and junky and break down often.

Those updates are in the works. If Kinkisharyo gets the contract, they might expand the Palmdale facility. And if any of the agencies that James and Elson noted above need new cars, maybe they will get them from Palmdale too. 😊

I read an overview about new subway cars a little while ago. They're looking for bidders and want to replace the older ones, then the newer ones later. I recall it mentioning the older cars being replaced in the next 10 years.

The Red Line and Purple line trains are the ones that break down the least...

As a fare enforcement officer, can Metro please install tear-away window plastic sheets on the train windows? I'm tired

or always seeing graffiti. It makes the trains look trashy.

👤

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[...]

👤

[...] posible que hayan visto el post que pusimos el
miércoles sobre el segundo nuevo vagón de tren ligero
manufacturado por [...]

This may be a silly question, but is there no way to get these
new rail cars to the Green Line via rail instead of truck?

Hi Lincoln;

It would be very difficult and still likely require a truck to
get the light rail vehicle to and from a freight train and to
Division 22 in Lawndale. This is the much more practical
approach and there's no real reason to use a train other
than sentimental purposes in this case.

Steve Hyman
Editor, The Source