

Metro™ QUARTERLY

SUMMER 2005



Exploring Los Angeles

Visit the region's top attractions via Metro



Metro™

Chief Executive
Officer
Roger Snoble



Hankering to ride the Mummy roller coaster at Universal Studios? Ogle King Tut's gold at the LA County Museum of Art? Follow the stars on Hollywood Boulevard or tour the Queen Mary? Attend a play in the NoHo Arts District? Metro's your ticket.

There are, literally, hundreds of museums, historical landmarks, art and entertainment centers, sports arenas, ethnic districts, unique shopping and more that are easily accessible by Metro.

Every weekend there are festivals and other events from the LA Marathon to Fiesta Broadway in Los Angeles County, and often the best way to avoid traffic and parking hassles is by taking Metro. ExperienceLA.com highlights these events and shows riders how they can join the fun via Metro. You can plan your trip at metro.net or call us at 1.800.COMMUTE.

This summer issue of Metro Quarterly focuses on destinations. It includes listings of entertainment, cultural, shopping and dining, sports and other venues, a guide to navigating the Metro system and many other features. There's a treasure trove of fun waiting to be unlocked and Metro is your key to discovering the best of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Roger Snoble

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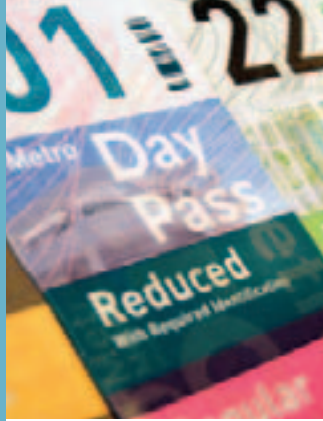
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- > Getaway Destinations – connections to Metrolink and Amtrak
- > Metro Art Docent Tours
- > Metro School Pool gets kids to school safely and more easily
- > Take a virtual tour of the Metro Red Line
- > Metro Store is online for purchase of logo items
- > And more...

Cover & Artifact Photography (Pgs. 3, 5): *Andreas F. Voegelin, Antikenmuseum Basel and Sammlung Ludwig, Dynasty 18, Reign of Tutankhamun 1323-1322 BCE*

GATEWAY TO ADVENTURES



LA on display

Los Angeles: The City of Angels. It's been called "nineteen suburbs in search of a metropolis," "the Entertainment Capital of the World," and even "La-La Land."

In fact, there's probably no other city on Earth that's as hard to categorize as LA. That's because it simply offers too much to be condensed into a short description – the year-round outdoor activities, championship sports teams, movie star sightings, first-run films, world-class restaurants and premiere art exhibits...the list goes on and on.

Taking a look at the big picture, this city of 3.5 million sprawls across 467 square miles of desert basin, mountain canyons and coastal beaches. Outside the city limits, another 6 million people live in 88 separately incorporated cities within Los Angeles County.

Ready for a close-up

Zooming in tight, we discover a Los Angeles that's immensely rich in human diversity and traditions. Each year nearly 4 million visitors from around the world participate in the city's cultural offerings. The much-awaited "Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of Pharaohs" exhibit at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art is just one example of the numerous adventures in this spectacular city – all accessible by Metro.

All of the area's people, sights, sounds and activities are connected by a wide variety of transportation alternatives. Besides operating more than 2,200 buses throughout the county, Metro also offers a 62-station rail system, including subway and light rail lines reaching from North Hollywood and Pasadena to downtown LA, Long Beach, Norwalk, Redondo Beach and dozens of points in between.

Visitors and Angelenos alike can take full advantage of the added convenience of service provided by 16 municipal bus operators, Metrolink and Amtrak, as well as an extensive network of bikeways and pedestrian walkways.

In this issue, we've detailed a wide range of diversions – from exploring new sections of the city on Metro's \$3 Day Pass to enjoying Metro's guided Art Tours. By rail or by bus, Metro offers a safe, quick, affordable – and fun – way to experience all that LA has to offer. •



LA Sparks (women's basketball)
May 31 – August 23
Staples Center, Downtown LA
Photo: Noah Graham/NBAE/Getty Images



Independence Day Celebration
July 4
Redondo Beach



**APV Pro Beach Volleyball Tour
Hermosa Beach Open**
July 21 – 24
Hermosa Beach
Photo: Holly Stein



**Gershwin at the
Hollywood Bowl**
July 12 – 16
Pianist, Jean-Yves Thibaudet
Photo: Decca/Michael Tammaro

Horse Racing
April – mid-July
Hollywood Park



Nisei Week Festival
Aug 13 – 21
Little Tokyo, Downtown LA

**Tutankhamun and the
Golden Age of the Pharaohs**
June 16 – November 15
LA County Museum of Art



Experience LA a Whole New Way

A great way to plan your LA adventures before you go is on *experienceLA.com*. Created as a public service by Metro, the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles (CRA), and other private and public partners, the Web site can help you discover city-wide hot spots by using the searchable destination directory and interactive events calendar.

Best of all, you won't need a car to experience all that LA has to offer. Whether you're looking for a half-day or a full-day adventure, *experienceLA.com* lists dozens of transit-based tours. Neighborhood tours include such diverse areas as the Broadway Corridor, the Original Farmer's Market, San Pedro and Thai Town. Or, pick an itinerary based on your particular interests: Gardens and Parks, On Location, Family Fun and many others. •

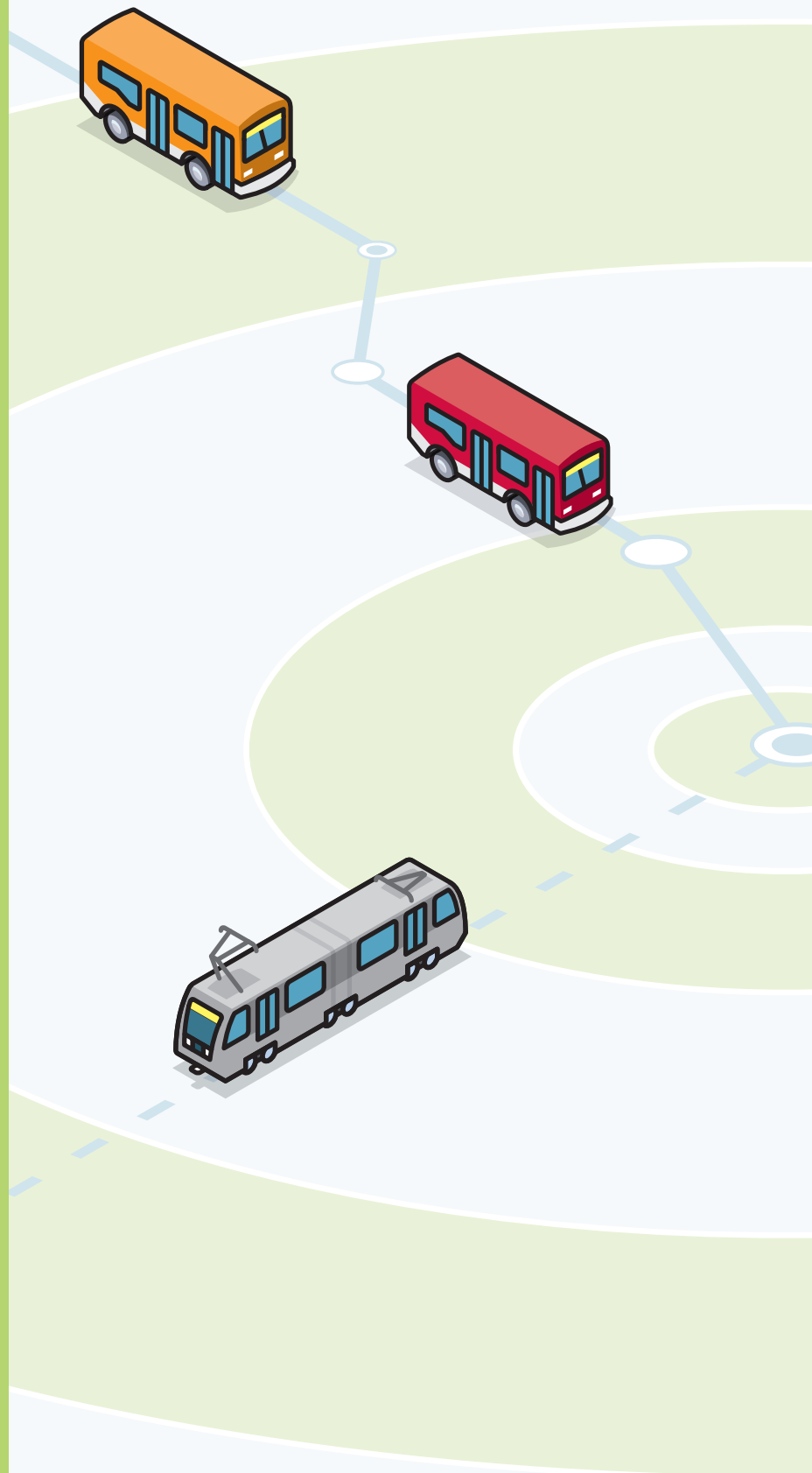
Plan Your Trip with Metro's On-line Resources

For added convenience, *experienceLA.com* incorporates Metro's on-line Trip Planner. Simply type in your starting and ending addresses; Trip Planner will do the rest.

At the click of a mouse, riders can learn the quickest way to take Metro to their destinations, how much it will cost and how long it will take. "The online Trip Planner will also help you find the locations of the nearest Metro Pass outlets and Park & Ride lots," says Alonzo Williams, Communications Manager.

In addition to creating itineraries for Los Angeles County, the Trip Planner can provide routes for Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties.

If you don't have access to a computer or the Internet, you can get the same helpful trip planning information by calling 1.800.COMMUTE. •





DISCOVERING LOS ANGELES
AWAY WE GO!

Despite what many may think, you don't need a car to get around Los Angeles. Did you know that Los Angeles has the second largest public transportation agency in the nation and operates more than 2,200 buses? We also have a subway system that can take you from Downtown Los Angeles to Hollywood in about 12 minutes!

Whether you're interested in seeing the stars along the legendary Hollywood Walk of Fame, catching the rays on Malibu beach or tempting your palate at any number of Los Angeles' sumptuous restaurants, Metro can take you there. Here are just a few of the many fun destinations to discover with Metro this summer.



Metro[™]



Plan your trip at metro.net

- > Metro Trip Planner
- > 1.800.COMMUTE
- > Metro Customer Service



Buy a Metro Day Pass

- > \$3 all day, any Metro service



Ride Metro Rail

- > Metro Blue Line
- > Metro Gold Line

- > Metro Green Line
- > Metro Red Line



Ride Metro Bus

- > Metro Local
- > Metro Rapid
- > Metro Express

**A****D****F****B****C****E**

ENTERTAINMENT

Arriving by Metro Rail or Metro Bus into the heart of Hollywood is like Dorothy landing in the Land of Oz. Located at one of the most famous intersections in the world, the Hollywood/Vine station evokes the history, glamour and excitement of the film industry's great movie palaces.

Across the street from the Hollywood/Vine station, catch a showing of the latest Broadway hit at the Pantages Theatre. Once home to vaudeville and the Oscars, the Pantages Theatre is an Art Deco masterpiece.

If you're interested in seeing a Disney premier, visit the Spanish Colonial-styled El Capitan Theatre near the Hollywood/Highland Metro Red Line station. Of course, no trip to Hollywood would be complete without a stop at Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Opened in 1927, this famous theatre is known for the impressions-in-concrete left by Hollywood's brightest stars.

The Hollywood & Highland complex includes the Kodak Theatre – the new home of the Academy Awards® – as well as six movie screens, 12 bowling lanes, restaurants and more than 60 specialty shops.

Just up Highland Avenue, you'll find the Hollywood Bowl. On clear summer nights, thousands of picnic-toting music lovers head here for performances of classical, jazz, and contemporary music. With a seating capacity of just under 18,000, the Bowl is the summer home of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Over the hill from the Hollywood Bowl is Universal Studios Hollywood. At the world's largest movie and television studio, you can visit the backlot and home of Universal Pictures and enjoy the theme park. Then shop and dine along Universal CityWalk. It's easy to take the Metro Red Line to Universal City. A convenient shuttle takes you up the hill to the theme park.

Ahmanson Theater, Dorothy Chandler Pavillion, Mark Taper Forum, 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown LA, 213.628.2272
Metro Red Line Civic Center station; Metro Local 14, 60, 442, 487 and others

El Capitan Theatre, 6838 Hollywood Blvd., LA 323.467.7674
Metro Red Line Hollywood/Highland station; Metro Rapid 717, 780; Metro Local 26, 180, 212, 217, 312

D Grauman's Chinese Theatre, 6925 Hollywood Blvd., LA, 323.464.8111 Metro Red Line Hollywood/Highland station; Metro Rapid 717, 780; Metro Local 26, 180, 212, 217, 312

B Hollywood Bowl, 2301 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood, 323.850.2000 Metro Red Line Hollywood/Vine station – connect to paid shuttle; Metro Local 156

Hollywood Forever Cemetery, 6000 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, 323.469.1181 Metro Local 4, 156, 304

A Hollywood Walk of Fame and Hollywood Blvd Metro Red Line Hollywood/Vine and Hollywood/Highland stations; Metro Rapid 717, 780; Metro Local 26, 180, 212, 217, 312

Pantages Theatre, 6233 Hollywood Blvd., LA, 323.468.1770
Metro Red Line Hollywood/Vine station; Metro Rapid 717, 780; Metro Local 26, 180, 212, 217, 312

Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Ave., Hollywood, 323.956.5000 Metro Local 10, 11

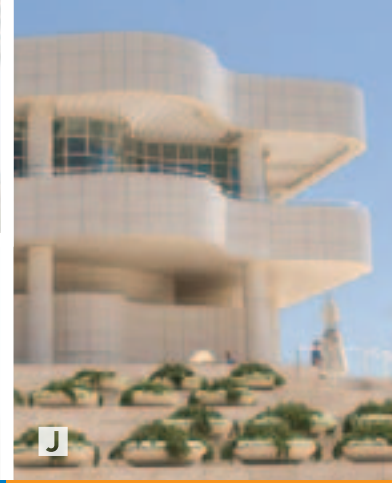
C Pasadena Playhouse, 39 S. El Molino Ave., Pasadena, 626.356.7529 Metro Gold Line Lake Avenue station; Metro Rapid 780

Sony Pictures Studio, 10202 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, 310.244.3695 Metro Local 220

F Universal Studios Hollywood, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, 818.622.4455, Metro Red Line Universal City station; Metro Rapid 750; Metro Local 96, 150, 152, 166

E Walt Disney Concert Hall, 151 S. Grand Ave., Downtown LA, 323.850.2000 Metro Red Line Civic Center station; Metro Local 14, 60, 442, 487 and others

Warner Brothers Studios, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, 818.954.1744 Metro Local 96, 163



SPORTS

The Staples Center is host to the LA Lakers, LA Clippers, LA Sparks, LA Kings and LA Avengers. Inside are a number of restaurants, including the Fox Sports Sky Box offering Fox Sports programming shown on big-screen TVs. And if you're interested in bringing home a licensed jersey from your favorite player, visit TEAM LA for a premier selection of merchandise for all the Los Angeles teams.

The Home Depot Center is a 125-acre development featuring state-of-the-art stadiums and facilities for soccer, tennis, track and field, cycling, volleyball, baseball, softball, basketball and other sports. Designated as an Official U.S. Olympic Training Site, The Home Depot Center, located on the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills, is the nation's most complete training facility for Olympic, amateur and professional athletes.

CULTURAL/MUSEUMS

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) includes more than 100,000 works of art from ancient times to the present, making it the premier encyclopedic visual arts museum in the western United States.

Don't forget to see the La Brea Tar Pits and George C. Page Museum next door to LACMA, as well as the Craft & Folk Art Museum and the Petersen Automotive Museum.

The Natural History Museum in Exposition Park is the largest natural and historical museum in the Western United States, safeguarding more than 33 million spectacular, diverse specimens and artifacts.

Nearby, the California Science Center offers informative, hands-on experiences in its galleries, while the California African American Museum reflects the heritage and culture of African Americans in California and the nation.

California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) Home Depot Center, (CSUDH campus) 18400 Avalon Blvd., Carson, 310.630.2000, Metro Local 53, 130, 446, 447

G Dodger Stadium, 1000 Elysian Park Ave., LA, 323.224.1500, Metro Local 2, then a 1/4 mile walk to stadium grounds.

H Hollywood Park, (Open April – December), 1050 S. Prairie Ave., Inglewood, 310.419.1500, Metro Local 117, 211, 212

Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, Exposition Park, 3911 S. Figueroa St., LA, Metro Rapid 740, 754; Metro Local 40, 81, 204, 381 and others

Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, Exposition Park, 3939 S. Figueroa St., LA, Metro Rapid 740, 754; Metro Local 40, 81, 204, 381 and others

I Santa Anita Park (Open October – April), 285 W. Huntington Dr., Arcadia, 626.574.7223, Metro Local 79, 264, 268

Staples Center, 1111 S. Figueroa St., Downtown LA, 213.742.7100, Metro Blue Line Pico station; Metro Local 81, 381, 444, 460 and others

California African American Museum, Exposition Park, 600 State Drive, LA, 213.744.7432 Metro Rapid 740, 754; Metro Local 40, 81, 204, 381 and others

K California Science Center, Exposition Park, 700 State Drive, LA, 323.SCIENCE Metro Rapid 740, 754; Metro Local 40, 81, 204, 381 and others

J Getty Center, 1200 Getty Center Dr., LA, 310.440.7300 Metro Rapid 761

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), 5905 Wilshire Blvd., LA, 323.857.6000 Metro Rapid 720; Metro Local 20, 212, 312

L Page Museum La Brea Tar Pits, 5801 Wilshire Blvd., LA, 323.934.PAGE Metro Rapid 720, Metro Local 20, 212, 312

Petersen Automotive Museum, 6060 Wilshire Blvd., LA, 323.930.CARS Metro Rapid 720, Metro Local 20, 212, 312

The Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Blvd., LA, 213.763.DINO Metro Rapid 740, 754; Metro Local 40, 81, 204, 381 and others



SHOPPING/DINING

The sights...the sounds...the food! It's no wonder Los Angelenos have flocked to Grand Central Market since 1917. More than 38 merchants offer their finest selections of produce, delicacies, and unique specialty items from around the globe. There's a great variety of fresh-picked fruits and vegetables, meats, fish, and poultry, herbs and spices, candies and nuts, fresh cut flowers and exotic dishes from a variety of cultures.

Today, taking a walk down Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills conjures up images of Rome's Via Condotti, Paris' Faubourg Saint Honore, London's New Bond Street and even New York's Fifth Avenue come to mind. The street has an international flair with high-end shops such as Dolce & Gabbana, Chanel and Christian Dior. Along Wilshire Boulevard don't forget Barney's New York, Neiman-Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue. World-famous restaurants and luxury hotels round out the visitor's Beverly Hills experience.

Beverly Center, 8500 Beverly Blvd., LA, 310.854.0071 Metro Rapid 705, 714; Metro Local 14, 16, 218, 316 and others

Farmers Market/The Grove, 6333 West Third St., LA, 323.933.9211 Metro Rapid 717; Metro Local 16, 217, 316 and others

Fashion District, 110 East 9th St., Downtown LA, 213.488.1153 Metro Local 10, 33, 55, 66, 333, 366 and others

Grand Central Market, 317 S. Broadway, Downtown LA, 213.624.2378 Metro Red Line Pershing Square station; Metro Local 14, 60, 442, 487 and others

Jewelry District, Fifth and Hill Streets to Seventh and Olive Streets, Downtown LA, Metro Red Line Pershing Square station; Metro Local 14, 60, 442, 487 and others

Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills Metro Rapid 720; Metro Local 14, 20, 316 and others

Universal CityWalk Metro Red Line Universal City station; Metro Rapid 750; Metro Local 96, 150, 152, 166

OUTDOOR FUN

By the sea, by the sea, by the beautiful sea...there's a reason why people from all over the world flock to our magnificent coastline. Rollerblade, ride a bike or just stroll along the Promenade/Ocean Front Walk connecting Santa Monica and Venice beaches. You won't want to miss Santa Monica Pier's arcade games and restored 1922 carousel, as well as the flexing bodybuilders on Venice's world-famous Muscle Beach.

With more than 4,107 acres of natural terrain covered with California oak trees, wild sage and manzanita, Griffith Park is the largest municipal park and urban wilderness area in the United States. Originally a part of the Spanish land grant Rancho Los Feliz, the park was named for its former owner, Colonel Griffith J. Griffith. Within the Griffith Park complex, you'll also find the Museum of the American West, Travel Town Transportation Museum and the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens.

Crystal Springs Recreation Area, Griffith Park, 4730 Crystal Springs Dr., LA, 323.913.4688 Metro Local 96

Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, 626.821.3222 Metro Local 268

Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, 5333 Zoo Dr., LA, 323.644.4200 Metro Local 96

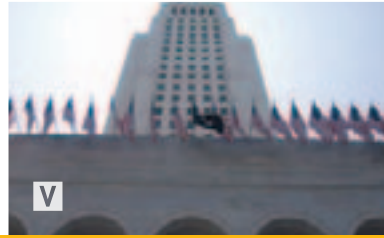
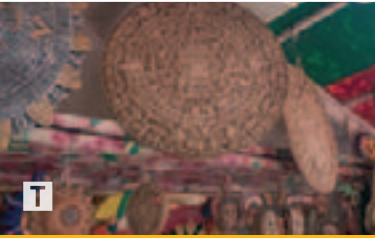
Museum of the American West, Griffith Park, 4700 Western Heritage Way, LA, 323.667.2000 Metro Local 96

Sepulveda Dam Recreation Area, 6335 Woodley Ave., Van Nuys, 818.756.8188 Metro Local 164, 236, 237

Shoreline Village, 429 Shoreline Village Dr., Long Beach, 562.435.2668 Metro Blue Line Transit Mall station

Travel Town Transportation Museum, Griffith Park, 5200 Zoo Dr., LA, 323.662.5874 Metro Local 96

Venice Beach, Muscle Beach, Metro Local 33, 333



LANDMARKS

All within walking distance in Downtown Los Angeles, you'll find exciting city blocks humming with diverse culture and history.

Film buffs will instantly recognize Los Angeles City Hall from the countless movies it has played a part in. It was the location of the "Daily Planet" for Superman's television run and it was often patrolled by Sgt. Joe Friday in the "Dragnet" television series.

Union Station is considered to be the "last of America's great rail stations." Today, the historic terminal serves as the hub for the Metro Red and Gold Lines, as well as for Metrolink and Amtrak rail service.

Across from Union Station is the cobblestone, pedestrian-only Olvera Street. You'll find carts loaded with leather goods and other merchandise, open-air restaurants serving authentic Mexican fare, and the occasional Mariachi band.

Chinatown's early settlement, circa 1852, is near the site of today's Union Station. Resettled a few streets over, in 1938 it became the first modern American Chinatown, owned and planned by its Chinese residents.

Little Tokyo consists of nearly four city blocks and is the undisputed cultural focal point for Los Angeles' Japanese population, the largest in the world outside of Japan.

It is in the tradition and practice of the Catholic Church to place a cathedral in the heart of the city. Located between the Civic Center and the cultural center of Los Angeles, the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels embraces both and enriches the entire downtown community.

Built single-handedly by folk artist Simon Rodia, the Watts Towers are a monument to one person's unique vision. Standing 99 feet high at their tallest, the three towers attract many visitors to the park. •

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, 555 West Temple St., Downtown LA, 213.680.5200 Metro Red Line Civic Center station; Metro Rapid 740, 745; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485 and others

U Chinatown, 700-900 blocks N. Broadway, LA, 213.680.0243 Metro Gold Line Chinatown station; Metro Rapid 740, 745; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485 and others

Korean Bell of Friendship and Bell Pavilion, Angel's Gate Park, Gaffey and 37th St., San Pedro, 310.548.7705, Metro Local 446

Little Tokyo, between Broadway and Alameda Street, Downtown LA Metro Red Line Union Station; Metro Rapid 720, 740, 745; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485

V Los Angeles City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Downtown LA, 213.485.4423 Metro Red Line Civic Center station; Metro Rapid 740, 745; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485 and others

T Olvera Street, 622 N. Main St., Downtown LA, 213.628.1274 Metro Red Line Union Station; Metro Rapid 740, 745; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485 and others

S Richard J. Riordan Central Library, 630 West Fifth St., Downtown LA, 213.228.7000 Metro Red Line Pershing Square station; Metro Rapid 720; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485 and others

The Alex Theatre, 216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale, 818.243.7700 Metro Rapid 780; Metro Local 180, 181, 183

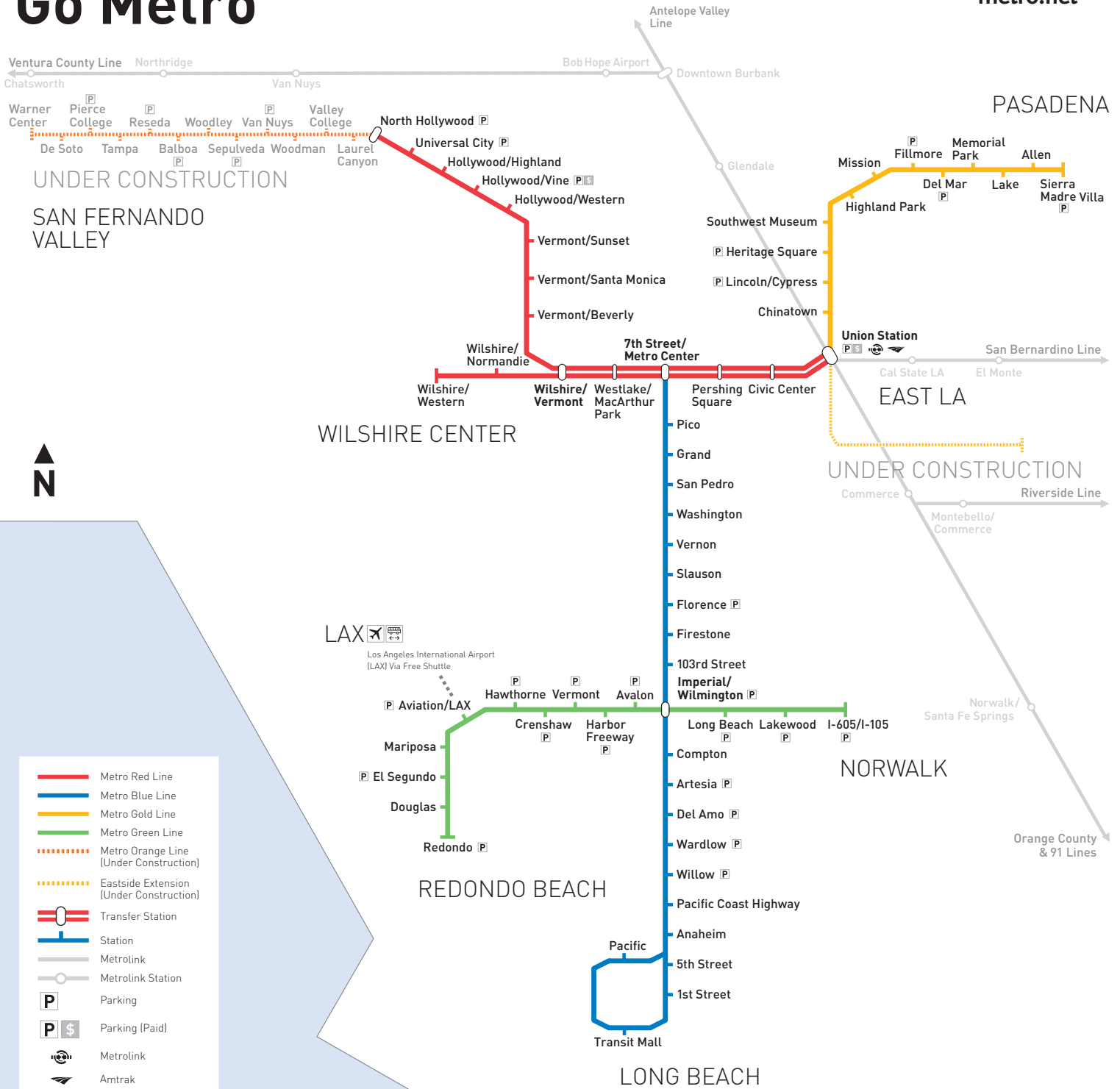
X The Bradbury Building, 304 S. Broadway, Downtown LA, 213.626.1893 Metro Red Line Pershing Square station; Metro Rapid 740, 745; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485

Y Union Station, 800 N. Alameda St., Downtown LA Metro Red Line Union Station; Metro Rapid 740, 745; Metro Local 33, 78, 79, 434, 444, 485 and others

W Watts Towers, 1727 E. 107th St., Watts, 323.860.9964 Metro Blue Line 103rd Street station, Metro Local 117, 119, 251, 305

Go Metro

metro.net





Getaway Connections: Day Trips

Not only can Metro take you just about anywhere you want to go within Los Angeles – but you can also plan a fun getaway from Union Station courtesy of Metro and our transit partners – Metrolink and Amtrak. Here are some ideas to get you started:

Ventura County via Metrolink

Ventura County offers small-town tranquility with ocean views and uncrowded beaches. Here, you'll find Mission San Buenaventura, the ninth of California's 21 missions and the last to be established by Father Junipero Serra in 1782. Ventura's busy arts calendar is filled with music, theater, dance and festivals every month of the year. A wide range of restaurants, clubs, bookstores and outdoor activities round out your Ventura stay.

Or, try these other Metrolink daytrips:

- > Los Angeles to Riverside
- > Los Angeles to Oceanside
- > Los Angeles to Laguna Niguel

San Diego via Amtrak

San Diego is known for its near-idyllic climate, 70 miles of pristine beaches and a dazzling array of world-class family attractions, including the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, SeaWorld, LEGOLAND, and Balboa Park – the largest urban cultural park in the U.S. It's not hard to find an excuse to spend more than a day or two here!

Or, consider these other Amtrak daytrips:

- > Los Angeles to Paso Robles
- > Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo
- > Los Angeles to Santa Barbara

Visit metro.net to plan your next Metro getaway. •

Metro's Art Docent Tours Educate and Entertain

If you believe Los Angeles' many museums and galleries are the only places in town to find great art, think again. Metro has commissioned a wide range of artists to incorporate their works into transportation projects – from bus stops to rail stations and streetscapes.

Since 1999, Barbara Lashenick, president of Metro's Docent Council, and her team of 22 volunteers have helped educate the public about these engaging artworks.

"Last year, 3,000 people took the Metro Art Tour," she says. "It's an exciting program because many people aren't aware of Los Angeles' public transportation system, let alone that each station is embellished with art. Aside from discussing the artists and the processes it took to make the art, we also teach people how to use the transit system."

Some examples of Metro Art Tours include discovering whimsical bus shelters, bird sounds, dancing lights, flying men and industrial angels; or encountering a 30-foot hand, concrete living room furniture or an interactive "space museum."

The free roundtrip tours are offered the first Saturday and Sunday of every month and last approximately two hours. Tours for groups of 15 or more are available by special arrangement. For more information, visit metro.net or call 213.922.2738. •



▲ Barbara Lashenick, front left in safety vest, and members of Metro's Docent Council.

Metro School Pool Survey Form

NEW CHANGE

1. Parent/Guardian's Name

Last

2. Child's Name

Last

3. Student's Name

First

5. Home Address

Number (No.)

6. City

8. Nearest Cross Streets

(Example: Park Ave & Main St., Park Ave & Main St., Park Ave & Main St.)

9. Parent/Guardian contact number

10. What are the child's normal arrival and departure times?
School Arrival Time: : am pm
School Leave Time: : am pm

Teacher's Name

First

Affix School Label Here

Metro School Pool – Easy, Convenient for Parents

With today's high gasoline prices, parents are looking for a less expensive, safe way to get their kids to and from school this year.

The solution: Metro School Pool's carpool matching service. It's free, easy and convenient and it helps reduce traffic around schools.

Here's how it works. Parents contact Metro Commute Services at 213.922.2811 for a survey form. Once the completed form is submitted to the child's school, parents receive a list of others who are interested in forming a carpool.

Parents work together to set up the carpools and participation is voluntary. Only phone numbers are provided; home addresses are confidential.

Metro Commute Services is ready to help parents by registering any school not currently participating in the School Pool system. •

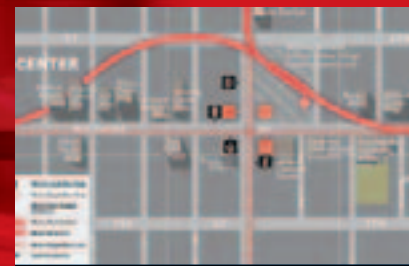
Interactive Rail Map – Instant Information at your Fingertips

Metro has taken all the mystery out of riding the rails with our new on-line, interactive rail system map. Want to know the address of the Pacific station, how many bike racks and lockers are at the Vermont/Sunset station or whether you need change for parking at the Sierra Madre Villa station?

Our interactive rail map has all the answers: street addresses, parking, bike amenities – all at the click of a mouse. Zoom in, zoom out, pan from side to side to get a full look at the neighborhood before you ride.

“We know that many people use our Web site to find out about Metro Rail lines and stations, so we wanted to make it effortless to access the details,” explains Yvonne Price, Senior Marketing Communications Officer.

For added convenience, the complete Metro Bus and Metro Rail System map is on-line and divided into six areas of service. Like the interactive rail map, the Metro System map lists Amtrak and Metrolink connections from Union Station to make your trip planning trouble-free. Try the new Metro interactive map at metro.net/railmap. •





Team Metro is Working for You!

It takes a hard-working team of professionals to make sure Metro Buses and trains roll out on time every day, ready to safely transport our customers to their destinations. That means keeping bus engines and coaches in good mechanical health and in shiny, clean condition. It means operating on dependable schedules and driving safely on the roads and rails. And it means providing effective security for our passengers.

Metro Team members, from left, are Transportation Operations Supervisor Darcy Mason, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Jason Roberts, Metro Security Officer Gloria Garcia, Mechanic Tom Banh, Bus Operator Ricardo Montes and Service Attendant Jason Stange. •

On-Line: Metro Red Line Virtual Reality Tour

Thousands of people ride the Metro Red Line every day for work and sightseeing. And since last February, thousands more are going to *metro.net* for an interactive Red Line Virtual Reality Tour of the subway system.

"Next to our on-line Trip Planner, most people use the Web site to find rail information," says Joe Simpson, *metro.net's* Webmaster. "We're always looking for new ways to inform the public about our rail and bus systems."

Set to music, the colorful, easy-to-navigate on-line tour gives viewers a panoramic view of the life, art, sights, sounds and culture of some of the most vibrant parts of Los Angeles. You can pan the interior and exterior views 360 degrees and hop from station to station.

"If someone is planning a trip to the city, they can take the virtual tour of the station first," says Simpson. "Then when they visit Los Angeles, they'll be more likely to take the train because they'll know what to expect and how to get around using the system." •



Metro Provides Pedal Power

Metro makes exploring the city – even commuting to work – easy for bicyclists. Nearly all Metro Buses are equipped with bike racks, many Metro Rail stations include bike lockers or racks and the agency has funded \$83 million in bicycle facilities and another \$10 million in bike parking, bike racks and education projects.

To help get riders in the cycling spirit, Metro recently co-sponsored Bike to Work Day 2005, the biggest bicycle commute in the United States. For the 11th straight year a record number of cyclists gave bicycle commuting a try.

Not only is it healthy, but bicycling is also an attractive money-saving alternative to commuting or sightseeing by automobile. For more information, visit metro.net.



Metro Makes Transit Accessible

From Automatic Voice Annunciation (AVA) systems and low-floor bus ramps, to easy-to-use Wayfinding Kits, Metro is continuously updating its bus and rail system to accommodate the needs of our riders who are visually, hearing- or mobility-impaired.

Currently, more than half of Metro's 2,600 buses feature low floors to make wheelchair accessibility easier. The AVA system is installed and working in nearly 600 buses and will be operational systemwide by the middle of this summer. AVA announces bus line destinations to patrons waiting at curbside and provides passengers with on-board verbal and visual announcements.

“We also provide Braille-encoded and large-type ‘Metro Flash Books’ for signaling the correct bus,” says Chip Hazen, ADA Compliance Officer. “Blind or visually impaired riders can take advantage of Metro’s Wayfinding Kit, which features a Braille map of the rail system and audio tapes of the Metro Red Line stations.”

Hazen notes that Metro’s efforts to make transit accessible have increased wheelchair bus ridership from 11,000 boardings in April 2004 to 31,600 in March 2005. “This is a large jump in wheelchair ridership, but we still have a lot more work to do.”

Disabled passengers pay reduced fares on all Metro Rail and Metro Bus lines; riders with Access Services ID cards may ride at no charge. For additional information about Metro accessibility, contact Customer Relations at 213.922.7023 or visit metro.net.



Metro Orange Line Moving Toward Fall Opening

Despite delays caused by severe winter rainstorms, construction crews are working overtime to meet a fall timeframe for opening the Metro Orange Line in the San Fernando Valley.

The 13 stations along the 14-mile transitway were nearing completion at press time. All but one intersection has been completed and reopened to cross traffic. Final asphalt paving was being laid on the transitway and work on park-and-ride facilities was progressing.

Metro also has been upgrading facilities in the San Fernando Valley where the articulated, 60-foot compressed natural gas vehicles will be maintained. •

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Tunneling

Since breaking ground in July 2004, construction crews working on the six-mile Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension have been relocating utility lines, placing soldier piles, deck beams and concrete decking to facilitate excavation of the underground stations along 1st Street in East Los Angeles.

The station box at Mariachi Plaza will serve as the launching site, sometime this fall, for the German-made tunnel boring machines that will excavate twin, 1.7-mile tunnels in the Boyle Heights area.

Scheduled for completion in late 2009, the Eastside Extension will serve eight stations along the line from Union Station to Little Tokyo to East LA. •



Metro Store Now Online for Logo Item Sales

The Metro Store is now online and ready to take orders for a wide selection of authentic Metro merchandise. Logo apparel, drinkware, bags, stationary and more are available at metro.net.

Items include baseball caps, T-shirts imprinted with the Metro Rail system map, toys and children's clothing, coffee mugs, umbrellas, a boxed set of Metro Art note cards from the Neighborhood Poster series, and a set of postcards from the Metro Works Poster series.

Log on to metro.net and click on "Shop the Metro Store Online." Select your favorite merchandise and complete the payment form. Your Metro Store items will be shipped directly to you! •



Metro Passes 'Tour' LA County Destinations in 2005

- > Eighty-eight exciting destinations are featured on Metro's monthly, semi-monthly and weekly passes in 2005.
- > Highlighted in bright colors and accented with holograms, the passes include destinations the width and breadth of Los Angeles County.
- > All 88 destinations are served by Metro Bus lines, or by both Metro Bus and Metro Rail. •



FACTOIDS



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