



NEWS

AUGUST 31, 1994

CONTACT: STEVE CHESSER/JIM SMART
MTA NEWS BUREAU
(213) 244-7056/244-6347
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA TO REDUCE SERVICE ON LINES 443, 445 AND 457, EVALUATE RIDERSHIP

The MTA will reduce service on three express bus lines serving Long Beach and the South Bay area beginning Tuesday, September 6. Lines 443, 445 and 457 will be reduced from five round trips per day to three, while ridership levels are monitored to determine whether or not the lines should be cancelled.

The three lines were proposed for cancellation during the latest package of service modifications because of low ridership. Instead, at the request of L.A. County Supervisor and MTA Director Deane Dana, the Board voted to reduce service for a four-month test period to see if patronage per trip on fewer runs would increase enough to justify continuing the service.

"These lines have the potential to serve a large transit audience in the South Bay area," said Dana. "I felt we should take a closer look before cancelling them."

Line 443 originates in Palos Verdes Estates each weekday morning, and travels north via the Harbor Freeway to Union Station, arriving at 6:49 a.m., 7:22 a.m., and 8:22 a.m. Southbound trips will depart at 4:22 p.m., 5:07 p.m. and 5:44 p.m. Cash fare each direction, which reflects the September 1 increase, will be \$2.85, or \$2.40 with the discount token.

Line 445 travels from San Pedro via the Harbor Freeway to downtown Los Angeles, arriving at Temple Street and San Pedro Street at 7:03 a.m., 7:48 a.m., and 8:36 a.m. Southbound trips will leave at 3:55 p.m., 4:35 p.m. and 5:10 p.m. One way cash fare will be \$3.35, or \$2.90 with a token.

(MORE)

LINES 443, 445 AND 447

Page 2

Line 457 runs from Long Beach via the Long Beach Freeway to downtown, arriving at Temple and San Pedro at 6:57 a.m., 7:44 a.m., and 8:34 a.m. Return trips will leave at 3:55 p.m., 4:35 p.m. and 5:10 p.m. One way cash fare will be \$3.35, or \$2.90 with a token.

MTA operations staff will monitor ridership on the three lines. At the end of the four month test period, they will recommend to the Board either keeping or cancelling the lines.

#