



NEWS

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FIRST PHASE OF MTA'S RESTRUCTURED SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BUS SERVICE TO BE IMPLEMENTED JUNE 25; THREE NEW LINES TO DEBUT

Beginning Sunday, June 25, MTA passengers who ride San Fernando Valley bus lines will notice improved coordination of service, including with other Valley service providers, as the first phase of the San Fernando Valley Transit Restructuring Plan goes into effect.

Three new lines will be introduced as part of the first phase, with nine existing lines being changed to increase the quality and adjust the amount of service offered, and to improve efficiency on lines carrying few passengers.

"The service changes the public will see beginning June 25 are the culmination of an extremely thorough public process," said MTA Chairman Michael Antonovich, a Los Angeles County Supervisor. "We set out to create a reliable transportation system that attracts new riders, cooperates with other carriers and conserve on costs. I believe the restructured service will achieve these goals."

"The City of Los Angeles has worked closely with MTA through the entire restructuring process, so we are glad to be able to contribute to the improvement of transportation service in the Valley," said Los Angeles Mayor Richard J. Riordan, MTA's Second Vice Chair. The Los Angeles Department of Transportation will operate Commuter Express Line 409 serving Glendale, Tujunga, Sunland and Sylmar.

The first seeds of the service restructuring in the San Fernando Valley were planted in 1989 when then-RTD President Nick Patsouras convened the San

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Fernando Valley Summit Group, a group of business and community leaders, cities and elected officials to discuss key transportation issues and solutions for the Valley.

"I'm especially pleased that the Transit Summit members who worked long and hard on this project can now see their efforts come to fruition," Patsouras said. "MTA's San Fernando Valley riders are the ones who will ultimately benefit."

"The MTA is now becoming a more customer-driven organization," said MTA Board Member Mel Wilson, who played a key role in assuring the study was completed and implemented. "Our customers told us they would like to have improved local service, and we listened to them. This is an example of how we can improve our service while keeping an eye on the bottom line."

The second phase of the restructuring plan is scheduled to be implemented late this year or early 1996.

MTA's three new lines that will begin Sunday are:

Line 233 (Lakeview Terrace-Van Nuys Blvd.) -- Line 233 will originate at Eldridge Avenue and Terra Bella Street in Lakeview Terrace and provide local service along Van Nuys Boulevard between Foothill and Ventura boulevards. It will replace portions of service formerly provided by Line 560. New limited stop bus service will be provided along Van Nuys Boulevard between San Fernando Road and Ventura Boulevard via new Line 561.

Line 522 (Reseda Blvd.-Ventura Blvd.-LACC) -- Line 522 will replace former Line 240 (Reseda Boulevard). Line 522 will provide continuous service from Devonshire Street along Reseda Boulevard, Ventura Boulevard, Hollywood Freeway and Vermont Avenue to Los Angeles City College. Line 522 passengers destined to downtown Los Angeles via the Hollywood Freeway may transfer at the Hollywood Freeway and Western Avenue bus stop to Lines 424 and 425.

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Line 561 (LAX-San Diego Freeway-Van Nuys Blvd.-San Fernando Express Limited) -- Line 561 will originate at the Sylmar/San Fernando Road Metrolink station and provide local service along portions of Truman Street, San Fernando Road to Van Nuys Boulevard. Trips will continue in service making limited stops along Van Nuys Boulevard between San Fernando Road and Ventura Boulevard. A combination of local and express service will be provided along Ventura Boulevard, the San Diego Freeway and Sepulveda Boulevard serving Westwood, Culver City, Westchester and the LAX Transit Center. Service will be extended to the Aviation/I-105 Metro Green Line station shortly after the line opens. New express and limited service provided by Line 561 will replace portions of former Line 560 service. Local service will be provided along Van Nuys Boulevard via new Line 233.

During late night and early morning periods, trips on Line 233 and Line 561 will be combined to provide both local service on Van Nuys Boulevard and express service to Westwood and LAX City Bus Center.

MTA lines to be modified are as follows:

Line 96 (L.A.-Burbank-Sherman Oaks via Riverside Drive) -- This route will be modified to operate on Riverside Drive in Sherman Oaks and to Burbank Transit Center via Olive Avenue, First Street to the Transit Center and return via First Street to Olive Avenue and Glenoaks Boulevard.

Line 163 (Sherman Way-Sun Valley-Hollywood Way) -- The western terminal will continue to operate along Sherman Way to West Hills Medical Center; the eastern terminal will be modified to operate primarily via Hollywood Way through the Cahuenga Pass to Hollywood and Highland.

Line 164 (Victory Boulevard) -- Line 164 will be slightly modified to serve Warner Center via Victory Boulevard, Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Oxnard Street, Owensmouth Avenue and then return to Victory Boulevard.

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Line 169 (Saticoy Street-Sunland Boulevard) -- The route will be modified to eliminate loop around B-G-P Airport and the eastern terminal extended to Mt. Gleason Avenue.

Line 181 (Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena via Colorado Boulevard-Yosemite Drive) -- The eastern terminal of Line 181 will be extended to Pasadena City College at Colorado and Hill.

Line 212 (La Brea Avenue) -- Northbound route will end at Hollywood/Vine.

Line 236 (Balboa Boulevard-Rinaldi Street-Woodley Avenue) -- Northbound route will be modified to operate on Balboa Boulevard to Midwood Drive, continue via Paso Robles Avenue, Lorillard Street, Balboa Boulevard, Rinaldi Street and Woodley Avenue to Victory Boulevard. Service will be extended along Victory Boulevard and Van Nuys Boulevard to Ventura Boulevard.

Line 418 (L.A.-Roscoe Boulevard-Northridge Express) -- Westbound service will be extended on Roscoe Boulevard to Topanga Canyon Boulevard.

Line 425 (L.A.-Ventura Boulevard Express Limited) -- Limited stop trips will be provided northbound only in the morning and southbound during the afternoon rush hours.

MTA lines to be cancelled are as follows:

Line 406 (L.A.- Sunland Express via Pennsylvania Avenue) -- Alternate service on portions of the line will be available on LADOT Commuter Express Line 409, and MTA local lines 90/91.

Line 407 (L.A.-Sunland Express via La Crescenta Avenue) -- Alternate service on portions of the line will be available on LADOT Commuter Express Line 409 and MTA local lines 90/91.

Line 412 (L.A.- Burbank-Media District-North Hollywood-Valley Plaza Freeway Express).

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Line 97 (L.A.-Burbank-North Hollywood via Riverside Drive) -- Most of this line will be replaced by Line 96.

Line 240 (Reseda Boulevard) -- Service to be replaced by Line 522.

Line 560 (LAX-San Diego Freeway-Van Nuys Boulevard) -- Service to be replaced by new lines 233 and 561.

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