

Dec. 20, 1996

CONTACT:

ANDREA GREENE/JIM SMART MTA MEDIA RELATIONS (213) 922-2702/922-2700 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

METRO BUS OPERATORS TO TREAT CUSTOMERS TO FREE CANDY CANES DEC. 22, 23; FREE BUS, TRAIN RIDES ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Metro Bus operators will be distributing half a million individually wrapped candy canes to bus and train patrons on Monday and Tuesday, Decembers 22 and 23.

"The red and white striped treats are our way of recommitting ourselves to Metro customers and saying thank you," says Ellen Levine, MTA executive officer of operations.

Also, a dozen Metro buses will be decorated in a holiday theme and then judged by MTA staff in a spirited competition on Monday, Dec. 22 at 1 p.m. at the Patsaouras Transit Plaza behind Union Station.

Each bus division throughout Los Angeles County will enter into competition a bus which represents the neighborhood through which it travels to portray different ways residents celebrate the holiday season. Students from local schools will help decorate. The decorated buses will be in service during the week.

As part of the agency's new Customer First patron-oriented campaign, MTA will be offering free rides to bus and train passengers on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and New Year's Eve, 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.

MTA-279