



# NEWS

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## **MTA'S METRO RED LINE CELEBRATES FIFTH ANNIVERSARY; MORE THAN 38 MILLION BOARDING PASSENGERS HAVE USED THE SUBWAY SYSTEM**

As the Metro Red Line subway system celebrates its fifth year of operations, MTA announced today that more than 38 million boarding passengers have used the system since it opened January 30, 1993.

Figures compiled by MTA show that ridership on the 6.5-mile Metro Red Line, operating from Union Station through downtown Los Angeles to Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue, carried 38,116,770 boarding passengers from its opening in January 1993 through January 1998.

Metro Red Line ridership during fiscal year 1997 topped 11.6 million boardings, up 52 percent compared to FY 96 when 7.6 million boarding passengers rode the subway.

The increase in ridership is linked to the opening of the 2.1-mile Wilshire "spur" of the Metro Red Line in mid-1996 from Wilshire/Alvarado to Wilshire/Western.

Officials also noted that more than 34 million boarding passengers during FY 97 used the entire Metro Rail system. The 48-mile system is comprised of the Metro Red, Blue and Green lines.

Average weekday boardings on the Metro Red Line were 37,755, up 54 percent over last fiscal year and more than three times those carried in the first year of operation.

More...

Ridership on the 22-mile Long Beach to downtown Los Angeles Metro Blue Line averaged 50,122 boardings during FY 97. The 20-mile Metro Green Line from Norwalk to El Segundo recorded an average of 20,152 boardings during the same period.

MTA is completing construction on segment two of the Metro Red Line from Wilshire/Vermont to Hollywood and Vine. Segment two of the subway system is expected to open in early 1999. Segment three of the line from Hollywood and Vine to North Hollywood in the San Fernando Valley is expected to be completed in mid-2000.

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