



# NEWS

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## **MTA BOARD APPROVES FREE RIDES ON METRO RED LINE SUBWAY WHEN VALLEY SEGMENT OPENS AND ON NEW METRO RAPID BUSES**

The MTA Board of Directors today approved free rides on the entire Metro Red Line subway system for the weekend of June 24/25 when Metro Rail expands to the San Fernando Valley. The Board also approved free fare for one week on two new innovative Metro Rapid bus lines making their debut June 24.

The 6.3 mile expansion of the subway will feature new stations in Hollywood at Hollywood and Highland boulevards, across the street from Universal Studios and in North Hollywood at Lankershim and Chandler boulevards. The subway, which premiered in 1993, will expand from its current 11.1 mile length to a total of 17.4 miles. Linking downtown Los Angeles and Hollywood with the San Fernando Valley will be 16 stations.

The Metro Rapid Bus System demonstration project will cut the travel time of passengers traveling across the San Fernando Valley and the LA Basin by as much as 25 percent and complement service on the nearly 60-mile Metro Rail system. Buses equipped with loop-transponder detectors will lengthen green signals up to 10 seconds and allow buses to continue without stopping.

The 26-mile Metro Rapid route in the LA Basin will traverse the Whittier/Wilshire Corridor from Montebello to Santa Monica, and will include stops at the Wilshire/Western, Wilshire/Normandie, Wilshire/Vermont and Westlake/MacArthur Park Metro Red Line stations.

In the San Fernando Valley, a 16-mile Metro Rapid Bus route will extend along Ventura Boulevard between Warner Center and the Universal City Metro Red Line station.

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