



# NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CAPSTONE OF COUNTYWIDE METRO RAIL NETWORK**

**METRO RED LINE SUBWAY TO NORTH HOLLYWOOD  
ON TRACK FOR JUNE 24 OPENING**

The opening of a new 6.3 mile extension of the Metro Red Line subway from Hollywood to Universal City and North Hollywood on June 24, 2000 will be the capstone of a rail rapid transit system crisscrossing Los Angeles County.

The new Metro Rail extension will feature three new stations at Hollywood/Highland, Universal City and Lankershim/Chandler in North Hollywood. The vision of a subway connecting downtown, Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley will finally be realized although the Metro Rail system of light rail lines that connect with the subway is still evolving. A new 13.7 mile light rail line from Union Station in downtown Los Angeles to Pasadena is being constructed and should open in 2003.

By next summer the Metro Rail system will have 59.4 miles of rail in service and 50 stations. This includes 17.4 miles of subway with 16 Metro Red Line stations and two light rail lines that are all linked together. The Metro Blue Line connects downtown Los Angeles and Long Beach while the Metro Green Line runs along the median of the Century Freeway and links Norwalk and El Segundo. At Union Station in downtown Los Angeles, the Metro Red Line also hooks up with the 416-mile Metrolink commuter rail network that serves Los Angeles and four outlying counties as well as Amtrak rail service to the rest of the country.

More...

**1st Add  
North Hollywood Subway Extension**

Metro Rail is fast becoming a commuter's dream and a delight for tourists.

Rain or shine, no matter how clogged the streets and freeways, subway users will be able to zip from North Hollywood to the downtown Los Angeles Civic Center in 24 minutes. It's only eight minutes to the Hollywood/Highland station in the heart of Hollywood. Speeding under the Santa Monica Mountains, subway trains will reach speeds of up to 70 miles-per-hour.

This latest expansion of the Metro Rail system will give the transit dependent, commuters, tourists and others easy and convenient access to major job centers, government, schools, hospitals, shopping, sports, entertainment and cultural venues throughout Los Angeles County.

Tourists can pack more into their itinerary. For example, Metro Rail serves the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, the Watts Towers, Staples Center, all the downtown Los Angeles and Hollywood attractions, Universal City, which is the Southland's most popular tourist destination, and the NoHo Arts District in North Hollywood. Metro Rail also serves LAX with a shuttle bus connection to the airport.

Metro Rail complements the Metro Bus system, which is undergoing a major overhaul. Moreover, at the same time the subway extension opens, MTA will debut its new Metro Rapid buses on Ventura Boulevard in the San Fernando Valley and along Wilshire Boulevard to expedite bus connections to the subway stations.

More...

**2<sup>nd</sup> Add**  
**North Hollywood Subway Extension**

Modeled after a rapid bus system in Curitiba, Brazil, MTA's Metro Rapid buses will be outfitted with special transmitters to extend green lights, make fewer stops than regular buses, run frequently, utilize new low floor buses and special stations to facilitate passenger loading.

Construction of the Metro Rail subway ranks as one of the nation's largest public works projects. Work began in 1986. More than 100,000 jobs, largely construction related, were generated by this project. Miners removed enough dirt to fill the Rose Bowl in Pasadena 3 ½ times, poured enough concrete in the tunnels to pave a five-foot wide sidewalk from Los Angeles to Boston, and used enough steel to build 90,000 cars.

For more details about the Metro Rail and Metro Bus system, including access to an interactive trip planner, check out MTA's web site at ***www.mta.net***.

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