

February 27, 2001

CONTACT: RICK JAGER/MARC LITTMAN MTA MEDIA RELATIONS (213) 922-2707/922-2700 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## <u>METRO BUS LINES TO BE REROUTED</u> MTA'S METRO RAIL BEST BET FOR SEEING THIS YEAR'S LA MARATHON

As up to a million LA Marathon race spectators converge along the racecourse for this year's 16<sup>th</sup> annual LA Marathon Sunday, March 4, MTA's Metro Rail system is the best bet for viewing various locations as the runners make their way along the race route.

"In past years, Metro Rail has played a key role in getting LA Marathon enthusiasts to various locations along the race route," said MTA Executive Officer of Transit Operations Thomas Conner.

"This year, with the expansion of the Metro Red Line subway system to North Hollywood, it will be that much easier for people to get to and from the actual race."

Individuals planning to attend the LA Marathon are encouraged to use the nearly 60 miles of Metro Rail now operating throughout Los Angeles County. People from Long Beach, El Segundo, Norwalk, the San Fernando Valley, Hollywood and downtown Los Angeles can now enjoy the convenience of rail travel and see all the highlights of this year's Marathon.

Patrons are asked to purchase round-trip tickets to avoid lines at the ticket vending machines. The cost of a regular round-trip ticket on the Metro Red Line is \$2.70. MTA passes will be honored. Proof of payment is required to ride the Metro Rail system. Passengers traveling between multiple Metro Rail Lines will need to purchase multiple round trip tickets or one-way tickets with a 25-cent transfer.

The 26-mile LA Marathon course runs throughout the Central City area and will also impact 59 Metro Bus Lines in the downtown Los Angeles, Hollywood and Mid-Wilshire areas. More...

Metropolitan Transportation Authority • One Gateway Plaza • Suite 1900 • Los Angeles • CA • 90012-2932 • 213 • 922-2700

Page 2-2-2 LA Marathon

Metro Bus Lines affected by the LA Marathon on Sunday, March 4, will include lines:

2,3,4,10,14,16,18,20,26,27,28,30,31,33,37,38,40,51,53,56,60,66,68, 76,78,79,81,83,84,96,102,156,163,180,181,200,201,204,206,207,210, 212,305,217,362,401,439,444,445,446,447,460,483,484,485,487,550, 601,603,720.

Service changes and detours for the Metro Bus system will occur between the hours of 4:40 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday only in downtown Los Angeles, Exposition Park, Mid-Wilshire and Hollywood areas.

All Metro Rail lines will run as scheduled without interruption. This includes the Metro Red Line subway from downtown Los Angeles to Hollywood, Universal City and North Hollywood in the San Fernando Valley, as well as the Metro Blue Line between Long Beach and Downtown Los Angeles and the Metro Green Line between Norwalk and El Segundo.

The race will begin at Sixth and Figueroa streets in downtown Los Angeles and finish at Fifth and Flower streets in front of the Los Angeles Central Public Library.

Those wishing to see the beginning of the race can use the MTA's Metro Rail service to travel to the Metro Red Line's Metro Center station at Seventh and Flower streets. MTA's Metro Red Line's Pershing Square station is adjacent to the finish line at Fifth and Flower streets.

More...

Page 3-3-3 LA Marathon

Viewing points along the racecourse are located within a short walking distance from the following Metro Rail stations:

## METRO RED LINE

## METRO BLUE LINE

Wilshire/Western Hollywood/Highland Hollywood/Vine Hollywood/Western Westlake/MacArthur Park Metro Center Station (Start Line) Pershing Square (Finish Line) Grand Station Pico Station (5k Run) Metro Center (Start Line)

Patrons traveling from Long Beach can ride the Metro Blue Line to downtown Los Angeles. Those traveling from either Norwalk or El Segundo can use the Metro Green Line, transferring to the Metro Blue Line at the Imperial/Wilmington station to complete their trip to downtown Los Angeles. Thousands of brochures, each containing a map and printed in English and Spanish have been placed on MTA buses and trains to notify passengers of the temporary service changes and detours.

For specific schedule and route information about how to see this year's LA Marathon, individuals are asked to call 1-800-C-O-M-M-U-T-E or visit MTA's web site at <u>www.mta.net</u>.

# # #

MTA-024

