



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro News

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Rick Jager/Joni Goheen

Metro Media Relations

213.922.2707/213.922.6931

metro.net/press/pressroom

mediarelations@metro.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro to Complete Major Gold Line Track Relocation Work for Regional Connector Transit Project and Restore Gold Line Service to the Little Tokyo Station Sunday, March 20

Following months of major construction work for the Regional Connector Transit Project, Metro and its contractors have completed track relocation work at 1st Street and Alameda and will restore Metro Gold Line service to the Little Tokyo Station effective with the start of rail service on Sunday, March 20.

The work, which began in early January, involved moving existing Gold Line tracks approximately 40 feet to the north of 1st Street and Alameda and reconfigured the southern station entrance of the existing Little Tokyo Gold Line Station.

During the work, the Little Tokyo Station was closed and Gold Line service between Union Station and the Pico/Alison Station was suspended and buses were used to transport patrons around the construction work area. With the work now completed, bus shuttles will be discontinued and Metro Gold Line service will be restored to serve the Little Tokyo and Arts District area.

“This was intense construction work that needed to be done to prepare the area for the insertion of the tunnel boring machine later this year to begin actual tunnel mining for the project,” said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. “We want to thank the businesses, residents, motorists and Gold Line riders for their patience during this critical work and are pleased to once again restore Metro Gold Line service to the Little Tokyo area.”

Additional 55-hour weekend closures of the 1st Street and Alameda intersection are planned on three weekends in May for needed construction work to prepare the area for construction of the new 1st Street/Central Station. Dates and times will be announced once the schedule is set.

The Regional Connector Transit Project completes a 1.9-mile segment between the Metro Blue and Expo Lines and the Metro Gold Line by providing a direct connection with three new stations planned for 1st Street/Central Avenue, 2nd Street/Broadway and 2nd Place/Hope Street in downtown Los Angeles. The rail line, expected to be completed in 2020, will attract nearly 17,000 new daily riders and provide access to more than 88,000 passengers saving commuters up to 20 minutes off their daily commutes. It will provide a one-seat, one fare ride for commuters from Azusa to Long Beach and from East Los Angeles to Santa Monica without the need to transfer between rail lines for major east/west and north/south trips.

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The new Metro Rail extension will offer an alternative transportation option to congested roadways, provide significant environmental benefits and spur economic development throughout the County. Through improved connectivity, riders will be better able to use the entire Metro Rail system, municipal bus lines and other regional transportation services.

About Metro

Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that is really three companies in one: a major operator that transports about 1.4 million boarding passengers on an average weekday on a fleet of 2,000 clean air buses and six rail lines, a major construction agency that oversees many bus, rail, highway and other mobility related building projects, and it is the lead transportation planning and programming agency for Los Angeles County. Overseeing one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is, literally, changing the urban landscape of the Los Angeles region. Dozens of transit, highway and other mobility projects largely funded by Measure R are under construction or in the planning stages. These include five new rail lines, the I-5 widening and other major projects.

For more information about the Regional Connector Transit Project and for construction updates, visit metro.net/regionalconnector. Stay informed by following Metro on The Source and El Pasajero at metro.net, [facebook.com/metroregionalconnector](https://www.facebook.com/metroregionalconnector), twitter.com/metroconnector and twitter.com/metroLAalerts and [instagram.com/metrolosangeles](https://www.instagram.com/metrolosangeles).

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