



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro News

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Just in Time for Hogwarts ...

Metro Opens Red Line Universal City Station Pedestrian Bridge Today

As another example of ongoing efforts to make travel easier, safer and more convenient for patrons, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) today opened the Red Line to Universal Studios Hollywood pedestrian bridge, just in time for opening day of the Wizarding World of Harry Potter attraction.

The 400-foot L-shaped bridge, more than 20 feet above Lankershim Boulevard, connects the Metro Red Line/Studio City Station with the Universal Studios tram stop. By rising above Lankershim Boulevard, it creates safe passage for Metro Red Line passengers who until now had to cross the busy intersection to reach the free shuttle to Universal Studios. Thousands of visitors to Universal take the Red Line each year because of its convenience and proximity to the theme park. The Harry Potter attraction is expected to draw thousands of visitors this week.

“Our new pedestrian bridge makes it even faster and easier for transit riders to get to Universal Studios, one of Los Angeles’ best entertainment venues,” said Mark Ridley-Thomas, L.A. County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair. “Now, Harry Potter fans and other visitors to the theme park will be able to ascend to the bridge from the station plaza and make their way to the Universal Studios shuttle without having to contend with cars. The bridge should also help ease traffic at this busy intersection.”

The new \$29 million bridge conforms to all ADA standards. Elevators and escalators are covered so they are not subjected to the elements. The bridge features an open air design, and is enclosed with wire mesh for safety. It also incorporates pedestrian lighting that illuminates the entire length of the bridge and plaza levels. Griffith Company and Miyamoto International led the construction and engineering based on designs by Rios Clementi Hale Studios. Work on the bridge began in July 2014.

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.

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