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**METRO WESTSIDE/CENTRAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
September 2, 2004**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES TO MTA
WESTSIDE/CENTRAL SECTOR SERVICES**

**ACTION: APPROVE FINDINGS OF PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPT
REVISED SERVICE CHANGE PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Approve the findings of the Public Hearing conducted on Thursday, August 12, 2004 shown in Attachment A concerning Metro Westside/Central Sector's December 2004 Service Change Program.
- B. Adopt the Revised December 2004 Service Change Program as outlined in this report.

ISSUE

On August 12, 2004 the Westside/Central Service Sector conducted a public hearing to consider public input before coming to the Governance Council with final recommendations for significant changes to the bus system. After carefully considering public input, the revised December 2004 Service Change Program proposes to improve service through the reallocation of resources and implementation of a new Rapid Line.

OPTIONS

The options to the staff recommendations are to either 1) adopt the Revised December Service Change Program; or 2) modify and adopt any subset of the proposals.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Revised Service Change Program

Considering customer feedback during the public hearing process, staff is recommending a program that is revenue service hour and cost neutral.

BACKGROUND

The revised December 2004 Service Change Program includes schedule modifications to improve travel speeds and implementation of a new Rapid line. The program is consistent with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (LACMTA) Long Range Transportation Plan.

Public Outreach Process

On July 1, 2004 the Metro Westside/Central Sector Governance Council approved a Notice of Public Hearing detailing proposed modifications to sector bus lines. The legal hearing notice was published in area newspapers the dates of which are on file with the MTA Board Secretary's Office.

Prior to the public hearing, "Take-One" brochures with information about the hearing and community meetings were made available on Metro buses. Notice of the hearing was electronically sent out to a sector community database of over 200 maintained by Community Relations. MTA Media Relations issued a press release on the hearing. A message on the sector community meeting phone line contained information about the hearing.

The public hearing followed on August 12, 2004, at the La Cienega Tennis Center in Beverly Hills.

Results of the Public Hearing

Approximately 25 people attended the public hearing. Twenty-one people provided testimony by the close of the public record on Thursday, August 12, 2004. Fourteen individuals gave oral testimony, five respondents provided written comments, and two provided both oral and written comments.

Summary of Public Comment

Of the service change proposals under review, most of the public comment addressed the proposed reduction of service on Line 217, on Fairfax Avenue and Hollywood Boulevard, and the establishment of Rapid service along the Fairfax Avenue, Hollywood and Colorado Boulevard corridors.

Attachment A summarizes the public comment and includes staff's response.

SUMMARY OF REVISION TO SERVICE CHANGE PROPOSALS

Considering public input and review of the proposals presented at the public hearing, staff recommends proposals be modified as described below.

Routes 2/302 - (Sunset Boulevard)

Staff does not recommend the extension of mid-day short-line trips at Fairfax to San Vicente due to passenger demand, cost, and service hour increase.

Route 217 – (Fairfax Avenue – Hollywood Boulevard)

Staff recommends reducing the frequency of daily service to eight minutes in the peak hours and 16 minutes in the off-peak hours.

Route 787 – (Fairfax Ave. – Hollywood Blvd. – Colorado Blvd.)

Establish new daily Rapid service along the Fairfax Avenue, Hollywood and Colorado Boulevard corridors as previously approved by the MTA Board in the fall of 2002. The proposed frequency of service is 10 minutes during peak hours and 15 minutes during off-peak hours. Service is proposed from 5:00 am to 9:30 pm.

NEXT STEPS

With approval from the Sector Governance Council, staff will implement all changes effective December 19, 2004 or later.

[Attachment A:](#) [Summary of Public Comments](#)
[Attachment B:](#) [Maps of Service Proposals](#)
[Attachment C:](#) [Public Hearing Notice](#)

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