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METRO WESTSIDE/CENTRAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
September 6, 2005

**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 11, 2005 shown in Attachment A concerning Metro Westside/Central Sector's December 2005 Service Change Program.
- B. Adopt the revised December 2005 Service Change Program as outlined in this report.

ISSUE

On August 11, 2005 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 considering public input, the revised December 2005 Service Change Program proposes to improve service by reallocating resources saved through elimination of duplicative services, reduced route lengths, elimination of non-productive service, and implementation of limited stop services.

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

Staff is recommending a program that is revenue service hour and cost neutral. All resources saved will be reinvested in sector lines in the form of increased running

time or additional service. Attachment B outlines the revenue service hour and ridership impacts associated with the proposed changes.

BACKGROUND

The revised December 2005 Service Change Program affects eight routes. Three routes are proposed to be shortened due to duplication of service, limited stop service is proposed on two routes, a minor reroute is proposed on one route, one route is proposed for discontinuation due to low ridership, and one Rapid route may be combined with another Rapid service.

Public Outreach Process

On July 7, 2005 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, notice of the hearing was electronically sent out to a sector community database of over 100 maintained by Community Relations. MTA Media Relations issued a press release on the hearing. Take One brochures were printed for placement on buses and rail lines.

The public hearing followed on August 11, 2005, at the La Cienega Tennis Center in Beverly Hills.

Results of the Public Hearing

Approximately 27 people attended the public hearing. Two hundred thirty-one people provided testimony by the close of the public record on Thursday, August 18, 2005. Seventeen individuals gave oral testimony, and 214 respondents provided written comments.

Summary of Public Comment

Of the service change proposals under review, most of the public comment opposed shortening of existing routes.

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.

- Route 4/304 – (Santa Monica Blvd.)
Staff recommends shortening the service from 2nd St./Santa Monica Blvd. to Santa Monica/Sepulveda Blvds. contingent upon implementation of Line 704 (Santa Monica Rapid) in June 2006, and resolution of capacity issues with Big Blue Bus. Late night/owl service will be retained.
- Route 20/21 – (Wilshire Blvd. – UCLA – Santa Monica)

Staff recommends shortening service from Main St./Pico Blvd. to Wilshire Blvd./Westwood Blvd. and discontinuation of service to UCLA. Late night/owl service will be retained.

- Route 30 – (Pico Blvd. – E. 1st St. – Floral Dr.)
Staff recommends implementation of new limited stop service between Pico/Arlington Blvds. and 1st/Soto Sts. on weekdays, 6:00 am to 6:00 pm.
- Route 33/333 - (Venice Blvd.)
Staff recommends the minor reroute between Pico/Ocean Blvds. and 2nd St./Santa Monica Blvd.
- Route 68 – (W. Washington Blvd. – Chavez Ave.)
Staff recommends implementation of weekday peak hour limited stop service between Washington Blvd./La Brea Ave. and Cesar Chavez/Rowan Aves.
Staff does not recommend shortening of service from Montebello Town Center to Cesar Chavez/Atlantic Aves.
- Route 220 – (Robertson Blvd. – Culver Blvd. – LAX)
Staff recommends discontinuation of service due to low ridership.
- Route 434 – (LA – Santa Monica – Malibu – Trancas Express)
Staff recommends shortening of service from Union Station to West Los Angeles Transit Center.
Staff does not recommend discontinuation of midday service.
Staff recommends restructuring of the service in the West L.A. Transit Center area to connect with Route 33/333.
- Route 717 – (Fairfax Rapid)
Corporate Planning staff will make recommendation to MTA Board in October.

NEXT STEPS

With approval from the Sector Governance Council, staff will implement all changes effective December 18, 2005 or later.

[Attachment A: Summary of Public Comments](#)

[Attachment B: Revenue Service Hour and Ridership Impacts](#)

[Attachment C: Maps of Service Proposals](#)

[Attachment D: Public Hearing Notice](#)

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