



**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL  
JUNE 13, 2006**

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR DECEMBER 2006 SERVICE CHANGES**

**ACTION: APPROVE PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FOR POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS TO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SECTOR BUS LINES**

**BACKGROUND**

As part of the upcoming December Shake-up, staff proposes to implement several service modifications to bus lines operating within the San Gabriel Valley sector. Some of these modifications are considered to be major as defined by federal public hearing guidelines and MTA policy. As such, the Governance Council is required to hold public hearings, and to solicit and consider public input prior to approving changes of this magnitude

The following sections of this report identify the affected bus lines and the type of service modifications to undergo public review. Also discussed is the timeline for the public hearing process, which details the steps to be undertaken by staff over the next few months, including a date when the Governance Council is recommended to act on this matter.

**IMPACT ON BUDGET**

The final service plan to be adopted by the Governance Council in September will be cost neutral, and consist of a yet to be defined subset of service proposals listed in the attached draft service plan. Resources from unproductive or duplicated lines are proposed to be fully reinvested in other bus lines to address unmet needs, expand travel opportunities, and provide new incentives to use public transit.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed service modifications are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Long Range Plan and the Consent Decree. Overall, they provide for improvements in public access to transit as well as improvements in operating efficiency.

## **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Attachment A shows the draft service plan proposed for implementation in December 2006. The plan identifies four existing bus lines whose routes and/or schedules may be modified or restructured in some way to make them more effective. In addition, the draft plan calls for the canceling of an entire line.

**Staff is recommending that the San Gabriel Valley Governance Council schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, August 8, to receive community input on these proposals. The hearing is proposed to be held at The San Gabriel Valley Sector Office in the City of El Monte. The suggested time to conduct the public hearing is 5 pm.**

It is important to note that the service proposals listed here will be combined with proposals from other service sectors into one public hearing notice. The combined notice will list the respective hearing dates, times and locations for each sector. The initial printing of the legal notice is planned for Sunday, July 2 in the Los Angeles Times. Following the initial publication, the notice will be reprinted in newspapers throughout Los Angeles County, including foreign language newspapers. Notice will also be placed on all MTA buses and trains informing riders of the proposed changes to the bus system, and how they can comment on them.

In general, most existing riders will maintain their current travel patterns since they will have continued access to either the bus line they now ride, or to other bus lines that operate along the affected route segments. The proposed new services will expand travel opportunities for current riders and encourage new ridership growth. Staff plans to return to the Governance Council in July with more details of the service proposals to be discussed at the upcoming August public hearings.

## **PUBLIC HEARING TIMELINE**

Outlined below is the public hearing timeline and associated events leading to the successful implementation of approved service changes later this year. Key dates are highlighted for the reader.

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>
<b>June 13</b>	Council receives staff report requesting public hearing on August 10, 2006 along with preliminary review of service proposals for December 2006.
<b>July 2</b>	Initial legal notice published in major metropolitan newspaper
July 13	Council receives additional details on service proposals for December
July 10-Aug 10	Formal notification to cities, agencies, organizations and stakeholders

July 21-25	Special rider notices describing proposals placed on buses systemwide
<b>Aug 8</b>	San Gabriel Valley Council conducts public hearing
Aug 11- Sept 1 recommendations	Preparation of final staff report detailing findings and
<b>Sept 12</b>	Council acts on staff recommendations
Sept 15	MTA news release announcing approved service modifications
Nov 9	Council receives staff update on December Shakeup Program
Nov 17	Cities, agencies, organizations and stakeholders receive final written notice of approved changes
Dec 4	Rider notices placed on all buses describing approved changes
<b>Dec 17</b>	Implement approved service changes.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Staff proposes to publish the public hearing notice in the Los Angeles Times on Sunday, July 2 2006. Publication of the legal notice will officially begin the public hearing process. Additional notification of the public hearing will follow later in the month in other local and foreign language newspapers, and to specific stakeholders as shown in the timeline above.

### **ATTACHMENT**

#### A. Proposed December 2006 Service Modifications

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**ATTACHMENT A**  
**DRAFT SERVICE PROPOSALS FOR AUGUST 2006 PUBLIC HEARING**  
**METRO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SECTOR**

LINE	LINE NAME	SUMMARY PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES
85	Verdugo Rd.	Operate service only between Verdugo Rd. & Eagle Rock Bl. to Glendale College and renumber to Line 685. Service to downtown LA would continue to be provided by Metro Line 84.
201	Silver Lake Bl. - Glendale	Cancel service east of the Glendale Adventist Hospital. Improve the service levels along the remaining portion of this route between Glendale Adventist Hospital and the Metro Red Line Station at Vermont & Wilshire.
255	Boyle Heights - East LA via Marengo St. & Rowan Av.	Cancel the entire bus line between County/USC Hospital and Whittier Bl.
268	El Monte - Altadena via Baldwin Av. & Washington Bl.	Restructure line. One, remove service along Baldwin Av., Sierra Madre Bl. And Michillinda Av. in the cities of Arcadia and Sierra Madre. Service would operate along Foothill Bl. between Baldwin Av. and Michillinda Av. Two, consider establishing the northern end of this line near Lincoln Av. and Woodbury Rd. in Altadena. This would remove service provided to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, provided by selected trips on this line.
270	Norwalk-Monrovia via Workmanmill Rd & Peck Rd	Restructure line. Two alternatives under consideration. <b>Option 1:</b> Discontinue route segment south of Rio Hondo College to Norwalk Station. Norwalk Transit is proposed to provide replacement service along the entire segment, including matching span, frequency of service and days of service now provided by MTA. <b>Option 2:</b> MTA would retain service and reroute the line in the Whittier-Norwalk area via Santa Fe Springs Rd, Bloomfield Ave, Firestone Blvd and Imperial Hwy to Norwalk Station. Current route along Slauson Ave, Pioneer Ave, Orr & Day Rd, Florence Ave and Studebaker Rd is proposed to be discontinued, portions of which are now served by Norwalk Line 1.
487	El Monte - Downtown LA via Santa Anita Av., Sierra Madre Bl., and San Gabriel Bl.	Restructure line. <b>One</b> , break the line into two separate routes. The segment from El Monte to Pasadena would end near San Gabriel Bl. & Colorado Bl. The segment of service between Downtown LA to San Gabriel Bl. and Colorado would be extended to the Sierra Madre Villa Gold Line Station via Colorado Bl. This line segment would remain numbers Line 487. <b>Two</b> , consider simplifying the route of this line through the City of San Gabriel via Ramona St., Junipero Serra Dr, and Las Tunas Dr.
751	Soto Rapid Bus	Shorten the route by canceling segment of route south of Long Beach Bl. & Palm Place (about 3/4 miles south of Florence Av.) to the Long Beach Bl. Green Line Station. New Rapid Line 760 (Long Beach - LA via Pacific Av./Long Beach Bl.) is scheduled to be implemented in December 2006. This will provide replacement service to this three mile segment of Line 751.