

ITEM 6

METRO SAN FERNANDO VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 5, 2008

SUBJECT: ESTABLISH FEBRUARY 4, 2009 AS PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO
CONSIDER PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES FOR JUNE 2009

ACTION: APPROVE

RECOMMENDATION

Approve staff's recommendation to hold a public hearing on February 4, 2009, 6:30 p.m. at the Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center. The purpose of the hearing is to consider proposed service changes for June 2009 or later.

BACKGROUND

Major service changes to the bus system are implemented each year in June and December as needed. In June 2009, Metro San Fernando Valley staff is proposing to implement changes to the two new rapid lines, Line 724 (Sylmar Station – North Hollywood Station via San Fernando Road, Lankershim Boulevard) and Line 794 (Downtown Los Angeles – Burbank Station via San Fernando Road, Brand Boulevard). Both lines were included in last year's public hearing and were the subject of intense discussion. All new rapid bus lines, however, were required to be implemented in accordance with the New Service Plan for rapid bus expansion. The rapid bus expansion plan was completed in June 2008 with the stipulation that the new routes and service levels must operate for one year before any changes can be made.

The Governance Council is receiving reports on the status of Lines 724 and 794 each month. To address concerns for the reported low productivity on both lines, staff is proposing to implement changes to both lines next June to maximize resources and improve passenger access along the San Fernando Road corridor.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

The cumulative service changes from all sectors will meet the budgetary goal for FY2010.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The proposed service modifications are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Long Range Plan to improve public access to transit and improve operating efficiency.

DISCUSSION

Staff is proposing to include the following options for Lines 724 and 794 in the Metro San Fernando Valley portion of the public hearing notice.

Line 724 - Sylmar Station-North Hollywood Station via San Fernando Road, Lankershim Boulevard Metro Rapid

- Option 1: Cancel Line 724 and reallocate resources to local Line 224.
- Option 2: Reduce service levels on Line 724 to improve service efficiency.
- Option 3: Restructure route to coordinate service along San Fernando Road with Line 794.

Line 794 – Downtown Los Angeles – Burbank Station via San Fernando Road, Brand Boulevard Metro Rapid

- Option 1: Reduce service levels on Line 794 to improve service efficiency.
- Option 2: Reroute Line 794 from Brand Boulevard to San Fernando Road and adjust service levels.
- Option 3: Reroute Line 794 to San Fernando Road (same as Option 2) and extend route from Burbank Station to Sun Valley or Sylmar Station if Line 724 is canceled.

At the December 3 meeting, staff will provide the Governance Council with the draft public hearing notice, incorporating any changes needed. The draft notice will include hearing dates and service changes for all five sectors. Metro San Fernando Valley staff will receive comment on Lines 724 and 794 and any other changes included in the final notice at the February 4, 2009 public hearing. Staff recommendations for service modifications will be presented to the Governance Council for approval the following month at the March 4th meeting.

NEXT STEPS

The Notice of Public Hearing will be finalized after the December sector meetings to include the approved hearing dates and proposed service changes from all sectors. The Notice will be published in the Los Angeles Times on Sunday, January 4, 2009. Additional public hearing notification will follow in other local and foreign language newspapers later in the month.

Prepared by: Richard Hunt, General Manager, SFV Sector
Michael Brewer, Service Development Manager
Carol Silver, Transportation Planning Manager

Metro San Fernando Valley Rapid Bus Update Lines 94, 794, 224 & 724

Metro San Fernando Valley
Governance Council
November 5, 2008



Line 724 Metro Rapid

Los Angeles – Sylmar via
San Fernando Rd.

Approved by Metro
Board of Directors and
mandated by Consent
Decree.

NEW LINE 724 - SYLMAR-NORTH HOLLYWOOD STATION VIA SAN FERNANDO RD, LANKERSHIM BL



Line 794 Metro Rapid

Los Angeles – Burbank
via San Fernando Rd.
and Brand Bl.

Route Implemented
June 29, 2008.

Underlying Limited Line
394 trips canceled and
reallocated to Line 794.



San Fernando Metro Rapid

Effective June 2008

Phase II-E

 San Fernando Metro Rapid and Stops

 Other Metro Rapid Lines



Countywide Planning and Development
July 2008



SFV Metro Rapid Update



Comparison of Pre and Post June 29, 2008 Ridership Levels

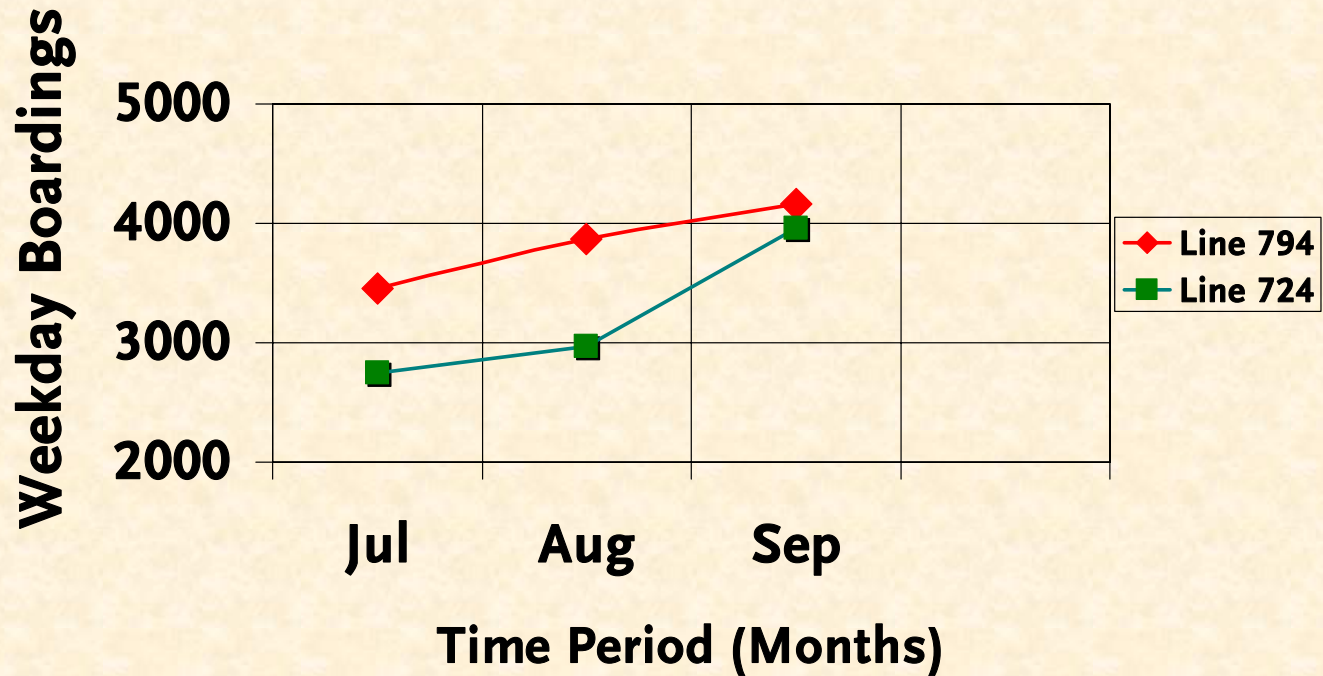
- **Weekday Ridership is provided on a line basis using ATMS data.**
- **Ridership data from June 2008 - September 2008 are included in comparison.**
- **September 2008 ridership totals reflect increased student travel and increased Metro Red Line ridership.**
- **# Aug. vs. Sep. Comparison**

Rapid & Local Ridership Impacts

Line	Jun-08	Aug-08	Sep-08	Diff.	%
92	6,378	5,537	5,557	-821	-13%
94-394	13,691	10,657	10,479	-3,212	-23%
794	-----	3,871	4,157	# 286	# 7%
Sub-Total	20,069	20,065	20,193	162	0.8%
224	10,834	7,623	7,664	-2,750	-25%
724	-----	2,968	3,960	# 992	# 33%
Totals	10,834	10,591	11,624	790	7%

SFV Metro Rapid Update

Line 724 and 794 Ridership Trends



SFV Metro Rapid Update

Service Productivity Ranking based upon (Boardings / Revenue Service Hour)

- In Aug. 2008, New Metro Rapid Lines 724 and 794 rank 28th & 30th respectively out of 35 Metro San Fernando Valley Lines
- In Sept. 2008, Line 724 ranking improved from 28th to 21st. And Line 794 ranking improved from 30th to 29th. Bottom 25% to 40% of SFV's 35 lines.
- **(##) New September 2008 updates.**

		Boardings/
Rank	Lines	Rev. Hr.
28 (21)	724	29.4 (39.2)
29	156	26.8
30 (29)	794	25.8 (27.7)
31	161	25.3
32	222	23.1
33	154	22.6
34	168	16.9
35	645	16.5

Public Hearing Time Line for June 2009 Service Program

- **November 5, 2008 – Governance Council Meeting to discuss Line 724 & 794 Rapid bus Service Options and possible budget related service changes for June 2009.**
- **December 3, 2008 - Governance Council Meeting to approve public hearing dates for February 2009. Approve Sunday, January 4th as date to publish hearing notice.**
- **January 4, 2009 – Public hearing notice published in Los Angeles Times and other local area newspapers.**
- **February 4, 2009 – SFV Governance Council to hold public hearing.**
- **March 4, 2009 – SFV Governance Council to act on staff recommendation and approve modifications to be implemented June 28, 2009.**



Public Hearing Proposals for June 2009 Service Program

Line 724 - Sylmar Station-North Hollywood Station via San Fernando Road, Lankershim Boulevard Metro Rapid

Option 1: Cancel Line 724 and reallocate resources to local Line 224.

Option 2: Reduce service levels on Line 724 to improve service efficiency.

Option 3: Restructure route to coordinate service along San Fernando Road with Line 794.

Public Hearing Proposals for June 2009 Service Program

Line 794 – Downtown Los Angeles – Burbank Station via San Fernando Road, Brand Boulevard Metro Rapid

Option 1: Reduce service levels on Line 794 to improve service efficiency.

Option 2: Reroute Line 794 from Brand Boulevard to San Fernando Road and adjust service levels.

Option 3: Reroute Line 794 to San Fernando Road (same as Option 2) and extend route from Burbank Station to Sun Valley or Sylmar Station if Line 724 is canceled.