

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

# METRO BLUE LINE SAFETY MEASURES

CORPORATE SAFETY DEPARTMENT

March 14, 2013



**Metro**

# COMPLETED MEASURES

## ENGINEERING

- Closed at-grade crossings on Flower Street
- Installed “Four Quadrant Gates” and Vehicle Detection Loops at 6 intersections
- Replaced passive “No Left Turn” signs with active flashing “Train” Signs



# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

- Installed median islands at several intersections
- Installed active “No Left” & “No Right” Turn signs at crossings



- Modified the traffic signal system in Los Angeles

# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

- Installed active “Look Both Ways” sign at Vernon Station



- Installed additional flashing lights and bells at several gated crossings



# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

- Installed “Swing Gates” at several high-traffic pedestrian crossings
- Installed barriers (railroad-type gates) at several crossings



# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

- Installed colored stamped crosswalks
- Installed pavement markings



## COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

- Installed a “Cyclops” light on all trains
- Changed the mechanical horn on the trains to an electronic horn
- Modified the headlights on all light rail trains to flash alternately
- Reduced the height of the right-of-way fencing at highway rail grade crossings
- Installed a 1.2 mile center fence in the City of Long Beach
- Replaced filament lights on warning devices with LED's





# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

- Installed in-pavement warning lights





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# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

## ENFORCEMENT

- Installed photo enforcement cameras at grade crossings
- Initiated motor bike patrols by Transit Services Bureau
- Sponsored legislation that increased the citation for highway rail grade crossing violations
- Conducted targeted enforcement at high-risk crossings

# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

## EDUCATION

- Conducted yearly presentations to the 160 schools within a 1.5-mile radius of the alignment
- Developed Videos and CD's on safe and unsafe behaviors around tracks and trains
- Prepared site specific safety presentations – videos
- Implemented the Safety Ambassador program



# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

- Distributed 250,000 door hangers and safety information

**Make the Blue Line safer.**

**When traveling near train tracks:**

- > Be alert at all times
- > Look both ways for trains before crossing tracks
- > Obey signs and warning signals
- > Never go under or around lowered gates
- > Never make a left turn on a red arrow
- > Never walk, sit or stand on tracks
- > To cross, push pedestrian button and wait for "WALK" signal

**IF FLASHING LIGHTS, GATES, AND BELLS ARE ACTIVE, WAIT FOR THEM TO STOP BEFORE CROSSING TRACKS.**

*Even if you have just seen a train go by, a second train may be coming in the opposite direction.*

**HELP SAVE A LIFE. Join the Blue Line Safety Team.**  
*Many Blue Line fatalities have been acts of suicide. If you see someone loitering around the tracks or station, please call 323.563.5000.*

**Safety begins with you.**  
BLUE LINE SAFETY TEAM  
For Emergencies: 323.563.5000

**La seguridad empieza con usted.**  
EQUIPO DE SEGURIDAD DE METRO BLUE LINE  
Para emergencias: 323.563.5000

**M Metro**



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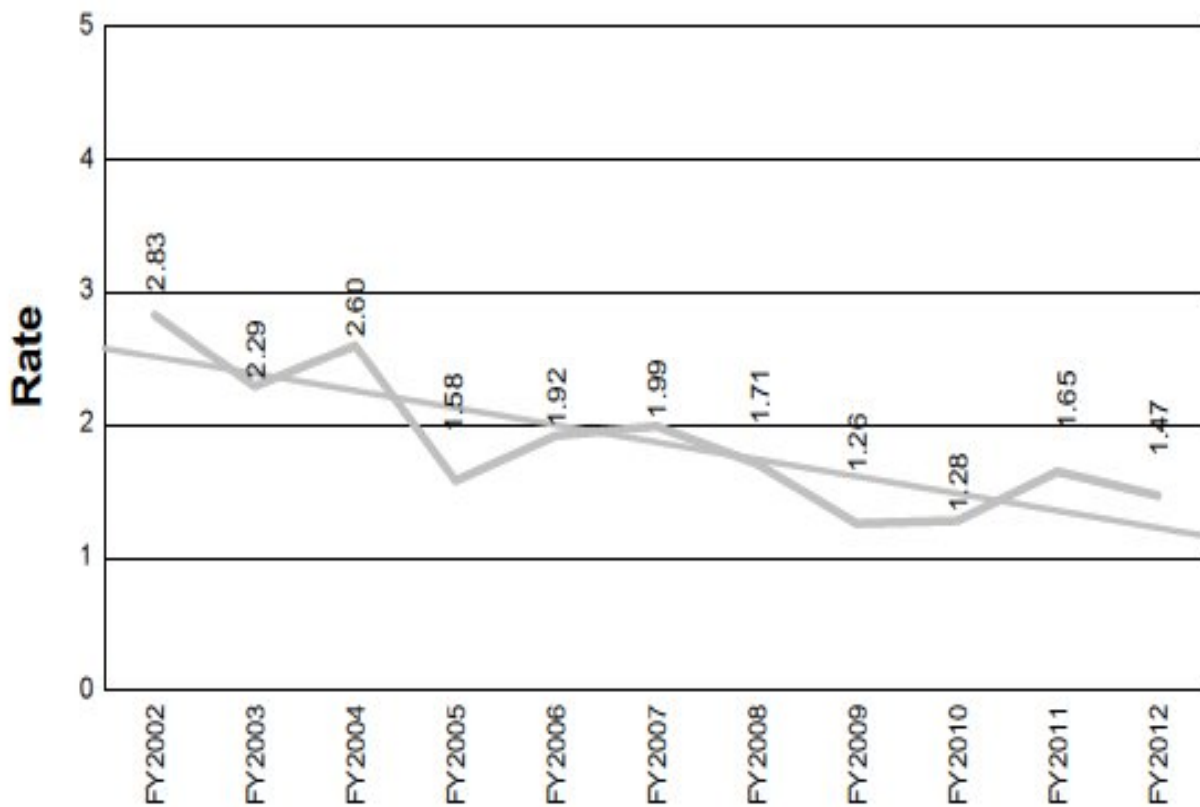
# COMPLETED MEASURES – cont'd

## OPERATIONS

- Revised the defensive operating program
- Modified the operating speed for approaches to 'far-side' gated station crossings
- Revised the rule regarding use of train-borne audible device



# ACCIDENT RATE PER 100,000 TRAIN MILES



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# FUTURE ACTIONS PLANNED

- Install LED Pedestrian “TRAIN” signals in both Los Angeles and Long Beach crosswalks at street running Blue Line Station locations
- Install Swing Gates and pedestrian gates (railroad type gates) on the MTA and UPRR side of the right-of-way at gated crossings
- Install “LOOK BOTH WAYS” active signs at station crossings

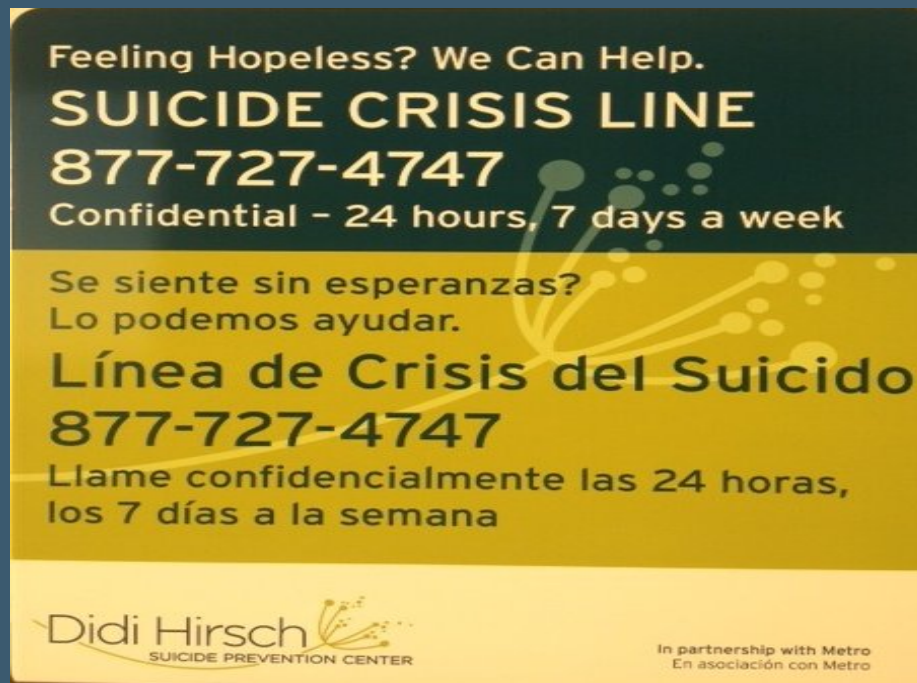
## FUTURE ACTIONS PLANNED – cont'd

- Install an audible warning device (grade crossing bell) at non-gated station crossings



# FUTURE ACTIONS PLANNED – cont'd

- Pilot In-Roadway Warning Lights (IRWLs) at 2 non-gated intersections
- Install suicide prevention signs at all stations and at high speed gated crossings

A rectangular sign with a dark green top half and a yellow bottom half. The text is in white and yellow. The top half contains the English text: "Feeling Hopeless? We Can Help. SUICIDE CRISIS LINE 877-727-4747 Confidential - 24 hours, 7 days a week". The bottom half contains the Spanish text: "Se siente sin esperanzas? Lo podemos ayudar. Línea de Crisis del Suicidio 877-727-4747 Llame confidencialmente las 24 horas, los 7 días a la semana". At the bottom, it features the logo for "Didi Hirsch SUICIDE PREVENTION CENTER" and the text "In partnership with Metro En asociación con Metro".

Feeling Hopeless? We Can Help.  
**SUICIDE CRISIS LINE**  
**877-727-4747**  
Confidential - 24 hours, 7 days a week

Se siente sin esperanzas?  
Lo podemos ayudar.  
**Línea de Crisis del Suicidio**  
**877-727-4747**  
Llame confidencialmente las 24 horas,  
los 7 días a la semana

Didi Hirsch  
SUICIDE PREVENTION CENTER

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## FUTURE ACTIONS PLANNED – cont'd

- Install active TRAIN signs at non-gated crossings in Long Beach where left turns are prohibited
- Enhance the lighting at grade crossings
- Install blank out “No Right Turn”/ “No Left Turn” signs



## FUTURE ACTIONS PLANNED – cont'd

- Install pavement markings at non-gated station crossings
- Wrap 20 Blue Line trains with safety messages



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## FUTURE ACTIONS PLANNED – cont'd

- Expand safety outreach & education efforts
- Reprint and redistribute safety door hangers