



**Metro**

Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel  
metro.net

November 19, 2004

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ROGER SNOBLE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: JOHN B. CATOE, JR.  
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JAMES L. de la LOZA  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER, COUNTYWIDE PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: METRO RAPID LINE 780 IMPLEMENTATION

BACKGROUND

In September 2002, the MTA Board adopted the Metro Rapid Five-Year Implementation Plan that identified the additional Metro Rapid Line corridors to be implemented through FY 2008. Nine of the 28 Metro Rapid corridors are now operating, representing approximately 140 miles in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County and 15 other cities. Five new corridors are planned for implementation this fiscal year, with the balance of the corridors scheduled for implementation by FY 2008.

There are two Metro Rapid lines scheduled for implementation this December: The Hawthorne Blvd. Metro Rapid (Line 740), providing service between the South Bay Galleria and Patsaouras Transit Plaza along Hawthorne and M.L King Boulevards and Broadway; and the Hollywood-Pasadena Metro Rapid (Line 780), providing service between Hollywood and Vine and Pasadena City College, serving the communities of Los Feliz, Glendale, and Pasadena.

ISSUE

Originally, the Hollywood-Pasadena Metro Rapid was planned to operate as Line 787 along Fairfax Avenue, between the West Los Angeles Transit Center and Pasadena City College. However, several operational concerns, as discussed below, resulted in deferring operation of the Fairfax portion of the line, west of Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street. Instead, Metro Rapid 780 will operate between Hollywood and Vine and Pasadena City College, and new limited-stop service will operate on Fairfax as Line 317, in conjunction with the existing Line 217 local service.

## DISCUSSION

In September 2004, Governance Councils for the Westside/Central and San Gabriel Valley Service Sectors raised concerns about the planned Fairfax-Hollywood-Pasadena Metro Rapid's (Line 787) proposed route length, as it related to service reliability, during the public hearing process. Specifically, concerns were related regarding:

- Combining two existing separate lines into one (217 and 180/380), thereby creating a very long bus line;
- Differences in service frequency between the two lines; and
- The heavy congestion on Fairfax Boulevard, including the section where there is only one travel lane in each direction.

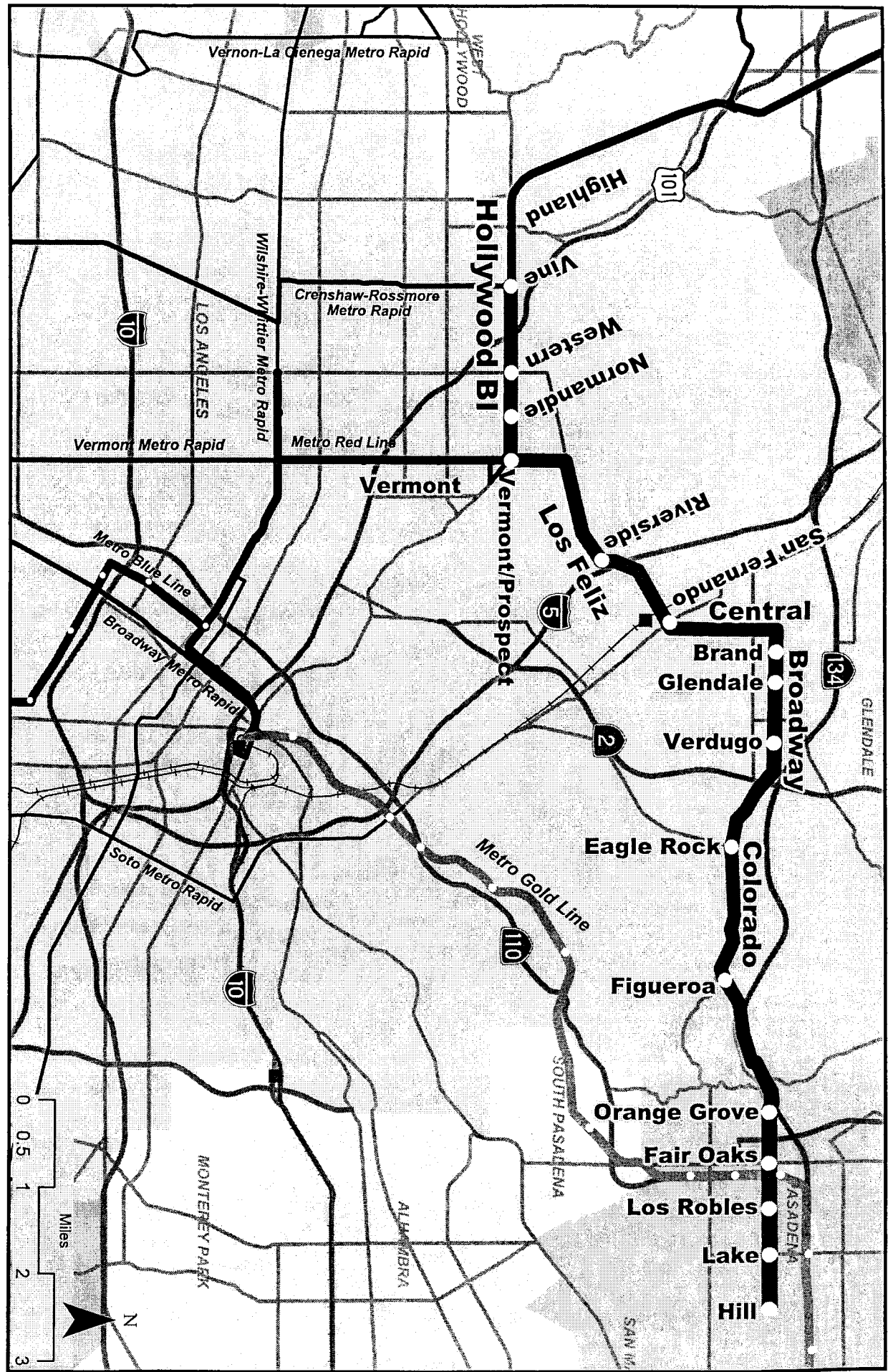
These factors gave significant concern that the routing for Line 787 Metro Rapid service approved by the Board might not operate reliably with respect to on-time performance. To address this, the San Gabriel Valley and Westside/Central Sector staffs, along with Metro Planning and Operations staff, agreed to implement the Pasadena to Hollywood portion of this Metro Rapid service in December operating as Line 780. In addition, the Westside/Central Sector will implement a separate limited-stop Fairfax service operating as Line 317 from Hollywood and Vine to West Los Angeles Transit Center.

## NEXT STEPS

Upon implementation of Lines 317 and 780, Metro Operations and Planning staff will evaluate the schedule reliability and ridership levels of these two services closely. Alternative methods for monitoring and managing this service on a real-time basis will be applied. Staff will evaluate various alternatives to operate Metro Rapid service along the Fairfax-Hollywood segment of the corridor and report the results of this analysis to the Board in April 2005. If feasible, such service could be implemented as early as June 2005.

### Attachments:

1. Metro Rapid Line 780 Map



# Hollywood-Pasadena

Effective December 2004

 Hollywood-Pasadena Metro Rapid and Stops  
 Other Rapid Lines



Countywide Planning and Development  
 November 2004