



**GATEWAY CITIES GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 9, 2004**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES TO MTA GATEWAY CITIES
SERVICE SECTOR**

**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 12, 2004 concerning proposed service changes to become effective in December 2004 (Attachment C);
- B. Adopt staff's revised service program as outlined in this report.

ISSUE

The service changes under consideration are considered to be major modifications based on federal public hearing guidelines and MTA policy. As such, the Council is required to conduct a public hearing and solicit public input before these changes can be implemented. The council is required to consider public testimony and the possible impacts from these proposals before approving them. Staff has prepared the necessary documentation in this report to satisfy this regulatory requirement.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives to the staff recommendation were identified for consideration. They include: 1) to not adopt the revised service program; or 2) adopt a new subset of the service proposals. Neither option is recommended, however, because both would result in maintaining an inefficient use of existing resources, and prevent needed improvements from being made to the bus system.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The revised service plan can be implemented at no increase in operating cost. The hours to be removed from Line 576 are proposed to be reinvested in Line 265 to provide new weekend service and additional night service on weekdays. Attachment A.

BACKGROUND

The Gateway Cities Governance Council conducted a public hearing at the Gas Company in the City of Downey on August 12, 2004. The purpose of the public hearing was to obtain public comment on proposed changes to several lines operated by the Gateway Cities Sector. Additional public hearings were also held last month by the governance council's overseeing bus service in the South Bay, Westside-Central and San Gabriel Valley service sectors

Legal notice of these hearings was first published in the Los Angeles Times on Sunday, July 11, 2004. Additional notice was subsequently published in other local and regional newspapers systemwide, including foreign language publications. About 300,000 rider takes-ones were also distributed on area bus lines and at customer service centers informing the public about these hearings and the changes under consideration. This information was also available on the MTA website as well as the sector website. Attachment B shows the legal notice.

Results of the Public Hearing

At the August 12, public hearing staff discussed each of the service changes proposed for the Gateway Cities Sector. In addition, staff also reviewed service changes that were proposed by other sectors that operated in the Gateway area. The public was invited to comment on any of the proposals under consideration. All testimony received on these matters would be included in the public record.

Approximately 20 people attended the Gateway Cities public hearing. Seven persons provided oral testimony directly to the Gateway Council on changes proposed for this area. Five persons also submitted oral testimony at the Westside-Central Sector public hearing on changes proposed by the Gateway Sector. In addition to the oral testimony received at the hearings, five letters were received by way of U.S. mail, e-mail and fax by August 14, the close of the public record. Collectively, a total of 17 individuals, agencies and organizations commented on these service proposals

Summary of Public Comment

Of the service change proposals under review, Line 265 received significant support for the operation of new weekend service and added night service on weekdays, albeit some refinements to the weekend route were suggested.

Interestingly, Norwalk Transit expressed concern about the proposals for Line 270, 275, and 362 and wanted additional discussion of these matters. This was contrasted by several respondents who supported the changes including the City of Whittier, which suggested only minor adjustments to Lines 270 and 275. Staff has since met with Norwalk Transit and discussed the outstanding issues. A letter was also sent to Norwalk Transit responding to the issues raised, outlining a path forward.

Line 362 also generated seven responses. Most were concerned about the expansion of the limited stop area on this line since there is no underlying local service. Hence, some impacted riders would need to walk about ¼ quarter mile to reach a limited-stop location.

Six people opposed the proposal to cancel Line 576.. The main issues for these riders is some would be forced transfer if this line were eliminated, adding travel time to their commute. Attachment C summarizes the public comment received on all the proposals. Also shown is staff's response to the public comment.

Proposed Revisions To Original Service Proposals

Based upon the community feedback received during the public review of these proposals, staff proposes to modify elements of the original service change package to reflect issues raised at the hearing. The Revised Service Program is discussed below. Route maps for each of these lines is shown in Attachment D.

- **Line 265**
Staff recommends the original service proposals be approved. This would establish new weekend service on this line and later trips on weekdays.
- **Line 270**
Staff recommends that a decision on this proposal be postponed at this time while we attempt to resolve some outstanding issues with Norwalk Transit. Staff proposes to return to the Council early next year with a final recommendation for this line and Line 275.
- **Line 275**
Same recommendation as Line 270.
- **Line 362**
Staff recommends the original proposal to expand the limited-stop area on this line be modified to add additional stops at the Commerce Casino, as requested. We will also review the entire proposed limited-stop area for possible adjustments to minimize walk distance for affected riders.

In addition, staff recommends the original proposal to serve the Metrolink Station in Norwalk be approved. The proposed routing for this line does not bring it into the station itself, but rather establishes a bus stop at the intersection of Bloomfield and Imperial Highway, about one block from the station.

- **Line 576.**
Staff recommends that the original proposal to cancel this line be approved. This action would eliminate a significant amount of service duplication and allow those resources to be reinvested to provide new service in the Gateway Cities Sector.

Impact Statement

The Revised Service Plan recommended by staff will not have an adverse impact on the community or most riders of these lines. In fact, most riders are not affected by the changes and will continue their travel patterns like they do today. For a minority, a transfer and/or added wait may be required. Some may need to plan their trips more carefully than they do today.

The addition of new weekend service and later weekday service on Line 265 will provide riders and residents served by the line new travel opportunities they do not have today. For instance, they will now have direct travel to the shopping centers at the Lakewood Mall and Pico Rivera Shopping Center. In addition, they will also have direct connections to the Metro Green Line Lakewood Station where none exists today.

The expanded limited-stop operation on Line 362 and the reroute to serve the Metrolink Station in Norwalk will improve service for riders by reducing commute times and providing direct access to the regional rail network. The reroute will impact only one stop and these rides will need to walk one block to access this line. The expansion of the limited stop area will impact about 110 roundtrip riders per weekday. They will continue to have access to this line, however, some may need to walk up to ¼ mile. Others will have shorter walks of one to two blocks.

Recent rider surveys on Line 576 indicate most do not travel from Vernon to the Palisades area but rather have shorter trips. Line 105 and 705 would continue to serve most riders needs without a transfer. Others destined to Beverly Hills or UCLA could ride Line 105 or 705 and transfer to Line 305 or Line 2 to make their trip. Both Lines 2 and 305 operate frequently. In fact, many use this travel pattern today for their evening commute home because Line 576 does not operate late. It is estimated that about 200-225 people ride this line each day roundtrip.

The estimated passenger impacts to riders of Lines 270 and 275 are not discussed in this report due to the negotiations that are underway with Norwalk Transit. Upon completion of those discussions we will finalize the impacts for these lines and include them in the special board report we plan to bring to the council next Spring.

NEXT STEPS

With approval from the Sector Governance Council, staff will implement approved changes effective December 19, 2004 or later. We will also return to the Council in the Spring of 2005 with final recommendations for Lines 270 and 275.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Financial Impact Statement
Attachment B: Legal Notice
Attachment C: Summary Public Comment/Staff Response
Attachment D: Revised Service Plan
Attachment E: Route Maps

Prepared by: Alex Clifford, General Manager, Gateway Cities Sector
Dan Nguyen, Service Development Manager
Michael Sieckert, Planning Manager

ATTACHMENT A

FINACIAL IMPACT OF REVISED DECEMBER 2004 SERVICE PLAN

LINE	PROPOSED MODIFICATION	ANNUALIZED		
		CURRENT REV HRS	PROPOSED REV HRS	NET CHANGE
265		15,989	21,089	5,100
	1) Add weekend service Line 265	3,575		
	2) Add later service Line 265 on weekdays	1,525		
362		32,991	32,991	0
	1) Modify route to serve Norwalk Metrolink			
	2) Expand limited-stop operation			
576		5,100	0	(5,100)
	1) Cancel line			
TOTAL		54,080	54,080	0

Note:

Revenue hours reallocated from Line 576 to Line 265 as shown in table

MTA
Gateway Cities Sector
August '2004



ATTACHMENT B

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Gateway Cities-San Gabriel Valley-South Bay-Westside/Central Service Sectors**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) will hold public hearings in the Metro Gateway, San Gabriel Valley, South Bay and Westside/Central Service Sectors at the locations and times contained in this notice. The purpose of the upcoming hearings is to receive public comments on proposed changes to Metro bus service. Approved changes will become effective December 19, 2004 or later.

The hearings are being held in conformance with federal public hearing requirements outlined in Section 5307 (d) 1 of Title 49 U.S.C., and public hearing guidelines adopted by the MTA's Board of Directors in 1993, as amended.

The affected bus lines and service proposals under consideration are listed below. These service changes are proposed to improve service quality, to use resources wisely, and to consider new options.

PROPOSED CHANGES

Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Proposals

LINE	LINE NAME	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
270	Monrovia-El Monte-Norwalk	Restructure route in Whittier, Santa Fe Springs, Norwalk and unincorporated area of L.A. County. New service on Painter, Hadley, Mar Vista, Greenleaf, Shoemaker, including direct service to Norwalk-Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station and Whittier College.
265-275	Pico Rivera-Whittier-Greenleaf Ave - Valley View-Cerritos	Restructure route 275 in combination with Line 270 (see above). New service on Broadway, Mullberry and Magnolia. Implement new weekend service on Line 265 and later trips on this line on weekdays.
362	Hawaiian Gardens-Cerritos-Telegraph Rd-Los Angeles Limited	Modify route to serve Norwalk-Santa Fe Springs Metrolink Station. New service on Civic Center Drive in Norwalk. Expand limited-stop area along Olympic Blvd and Telegraph Rd to provide faster service along route and reduce commute time
576	South Los Angeles-Pacific Palisades Express	Cancel line due to excessive service duplication. Service replaced by other bus lines along route

LOCATION AND DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING

GATEWAY CITIES SERVICE SECTOR

Thursday, August 12, 2004

5:30 pm

The Gas Company
9240 Firestone Blvd
Downey, CA 90241

Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Sector Proposals

LINE	LINE NAME	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
78-378	LA-S. Arcadia via Huntington Dr.-Main St.-Las Tunas Dr./LA-S. Arcadia Limited	Establish new Line 378 weekday, peak-period, peak direction only Limited Stop service between Downtown LA and Las Tunas and Mission Drives. Line to operate weekday only, peak period, and peak direction only service. Convert selected local trips to operate Limited Stop service.
170	Cal State LA-El Monte via Hellman Av. - Montebello Town Center-South El Monte-El Monte Station	Options Under Consideration: 1) Establish two new routes by splitting the route of Line 170 at Montebello Town Center; a. Proposed route 670 would operate between El Monte Station and Montebello Town Ctr. Via Ramona, Tyler, Elliot, Durfee, Rush, Rosemead, Garvey, and Walnut Grove. Service along Parkway Dr. and portions of Elliott, and Rush St. would be eliminated, as would service north of Garvey along Rosemead, Marshall, and Walnut Grove. Service north of Hellman on Del Mar, Valley and Ramona would also be eliminated. b. Proposed route 671 would operate between Montebello Town Ctr. And Cal State LA via Paramount, Hill, Del Mar, Hellman and regular route. Service north of Hellman along Del Mar and New would be eliminated. Maintain one route over the modified routing.
670	New El Monte-Montebello Town Center Shuttle.	Establish new Shuttle Line 670. Refer to Line 170.
671	New Montebello Town Center-Cal State LA Shuttle.	Establish new Shuttle Line 671. Refer to Line 170
267	Temple City Blvd.-Del Mar Blvd.-Lincoln Av.	Modify route to operate via Rosemead Blvd., Huntington Dr., and Sunset Blvd. Discontinue service along Sunset and California between Huntington Dr. and Rosemead Blvd.
487	LA-San Gabriel Blvd.-Sierra Madre Express	Extend route of Line 487 to replace discontinued segment of Line 491 between the City of Sierra Madre and El Monte Station. Refer to Line 491.
491	Sierra Madre-Arcadia-El Monte-Los Angeles Express	Cancel line. Extend route of Line 487 to El Monte Station via the route of Line 491. Various service options are available for passengers destined to Downtown LA.
687	Los Robles Av.	Remove service south of Glenarm St. Route would be modified to operate along Glenarm St. between Los Robles Av. and Fair Oaks Av. Passengers destined to Huntington Dr. will need to transfer to Lines 260/361 on Fair Oaks Av. at Glenarm St. Establish new direct service to Huntington Memorial Hospital.

Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Sector Proposals (Cont'd)

LINE	LINE NAME	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
	RAPID BUS RELATED PROPOSALS	
85	Cypress Av-Verdugo Rd.	Cancel line. Establish new Shuttle Line 685 to serve Verdugo Rd. between Eagle Rock Blvd. in the Eagle Rock area and Broadway in the City of Glendale. Segment north of Broadway will be discontinued with no replacement service. Service to downtown LA to be provided by existing Line 84.
181	Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena-Pasadena City College-via Yosemite Dr.	Cancel Line. Establish new Shuttle Line 685 to serve discontinued segment on Yosemite Dr. between Broadway and Verdugo Rd. in Glendale and Figueroa St. and Colorado Blvd. in the Eagle Rock area. Alternative service along Colorado Bl. between Lake Av. and Rosemead Bl. would be available on Foothill Transit service. Other segments served by New Metro Rapid, Line 180, ARTS shuttle, LADOT Dash, and Foothill Transit services.
380	Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena-Pasadena City College	Cancel all service on Line 380 and replace with New Metro Rapid Line 787 (Fairfax-Hollywood-Pasadena).
787	Fairfax Av-Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena Metro Rapid	Establish new Line 787 Metro Rapid service between Pasadena City College and the West LA Transit Center located at Fairfax Av. and Washington Blvd.
685	Eagle Rock-via Glendale Shuttle	Establish new shuttle to replace discontinued segments of Lines 85 and 181 in the City of Glendale and the Eagle Rock area.

LOCATION AND DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING

METRO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SERVICE SECTOR

Tuesday, August 10, 2004

6:00 pm

(Regular Governance Council Meeting at 5:00 pm)

Pasadena City College

Circadian Room

1570 East Colorado Blvd.

Pasadena, CA. 91106

COMMUNITY MEETINGS- METRO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

San Gabriel Valley Sector Office

3369 Santa Anita Ave.

El Monte, CA. 91733

Tuesday, August 3

6 pm - 7:30 pm

Boyle Heights Senior Citizens Center

2839 E. Third St.

Los Angeles, CA. 90033

Wednesday, August 4

6 pm - 7:30 pm

Metro South Bay Service Sector Proposals

LINE	LINE NAME	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
40-340	Hawthorne Blvd. – Crenshaw Blvd. – M.L. King Jr. Blvd. – L.A. Union Station	Cancel all service on Line 340 and replace with new Line 740 (Hawthorne Metro Rapid)
108-358	Slauson Av.	In Huntington Park, modify route to continue straight along Slauson Av. between Pacific Blvd. and Miles Av., eliminating duplicated portion of route on Pacific Blvd., Miles Ave., and Gage Ave. in conjunction with proposed route modification to Line 254.
111	LAX – Florence Av.	Reduce selected service between the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Transit Center and Inglewood contingent upon extension of Metro Rapid 711 to LAX Transit Center; establish new westbound Line 111 short-line terminal in or near Inglewood.
254	120 th St. – Huntington Park – Lorena St.	In conjunction with proposal for Line 108/358, modify route in Huntington Park to serve Miles Av. between Gage Av. and Slauson Av., eliminating service on Gage Av. between Miles Av. and State St. and eliminating service on State St. and Boyle Av. between Gage Av. and Slauson Av.
711	Florence Metro Rapid	Extend service to serve the LAX Transit Center.
740	Hawthorne Metro Rapid	Implement new Metro Rapid service between the South Bay Galleria and Downtown Los Angeles via Hawthorne Blvd., La Brea Av., Crenshaw Blvd., M. L. King, Jr. Blvd., and Broadway to Union Station Patsaouras Transit Plaza

LOCATION AND DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING

METRO SOUTH BAY SERVICE SECTOR

Saturday, August 14, 2004
 10:00 am – 12:00 Nn
 Inglewood City Hall
 One Manchester Blvd.
 Inglewood, CA. 90301

Metro Westside/Central Service Sector

LINE	LINE NAME	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
2-302	Sunset Blvd.	Extend all weekday short-line trips at Fairfax to San Vicente.
217	Fairfax Ave - Hollywood	Reduce weekday frequency of service on Route 217 during peak and off-peak hours. End route at Hollywood and Vine.
787	Fairfax Av-Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena (Metro Rapid)	Establish new rapid bus service along the Fairfax Ave., Hollywood Blvd., and Colorado Blvd. corridors.

LOCATION AND DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING

METRO WESTSIDE/CENTRAL SERVICE SECTOR

Thursday, August 12, 2004
 7:00 pm
 La Cienega Tennis Center
 325 S. La Cienega Blvd.
 Beverly Hills, CA 90211

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Additional details about these proposals will be available for public inspection after July 19, 2004. To obtain this information contact the address listed below, or visit your nearest MTA customer relations center. Information can also be accessed at: www.metro.net.

These proposals may be approved in whole or in part at a date following the public hearing. Interested members of the public are encouraged to attend the upcoming hearing and provide testimony on these matters. Persons unable to attend the hearing may submit written testimony until the public hearing date. All testimony presented will be transmitted to the appropriate Sector for inclusion in their public record. All written testimony should be transmitted as noted below to the attention (Attn:) of the appropriate Sector for inclusion in their public record. If comments apply to more than one Sector please indicated it in the Attention: December 2004 Public Hearings notation.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

LACMTA
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952
Attn: December 2004 Public Hearings

Comments can also be sent via:
e-mail to: customerrelations@mta.net
Facsimile at: (213) 922-1210.



ATTACHMENT C

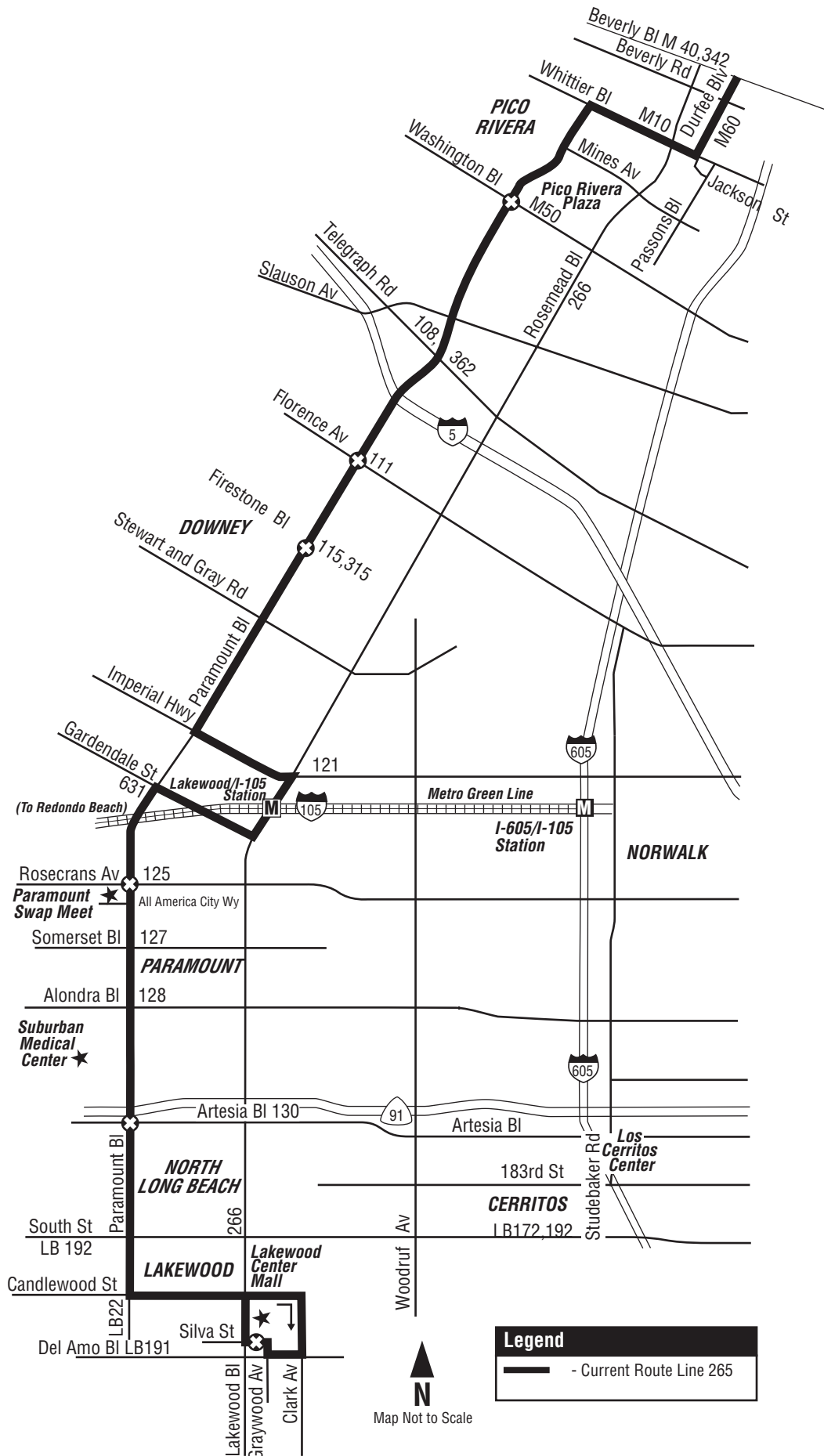
Summary of Public Hearing Findings/Comments/Staff Response for Proposed Westside/Central Service Sector Changes

LINE	ROUTE NAME	MTA PROPOSAL	NUMBER OF COMMENTS	SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ISSUES	MTA RESPONSE
265	Lakewood-Paramount-Downey-Pico Rivera	Add new weekend service to line; Add additional night service on weekdays.	Support: 4 Oppose: Other: Support: 2 Oppose: Other:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider extension of weekend route to Beverly and Norwalk to connect with other carriers. Operate to 9 or 10 pm. Consider clock based hourly headway at all times 	<p>Staff will consider this if it can be implemented within the allotted resources for this line.</p> <p>Staff will attempt operate as late as possible within allotted resources. Attempts to implement clock based headways will be considered if feasible.</p>
270	Monrovia-El Monte-Whittier-Santa Fe Springs	Reroute line to serve Whittier College and Metrolink Station in Norwalk. New service to operate on Painter, Hadley, MarVista, Greenleaf, Imperial Hwy. Service along Pioneer-Orr-Day Rd, Studebaker Rd to be replaced by other lines/carriers	Support: 4 Oppose: 3 Other: 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to keep service to Whittier Depot. N-1 should operate from 6 am to 8 pm on weekends and match span of service on weekdays. Norwalk Transit opposes due to duplication issues along Imperial Hwy/access issues at Metrolink Station. Proposes further discussion on matter 	<p>Staff recommends that a decision on this matter be deferred until the Spring of 2005. During the interim staff will have further discussions with Norwalk Transit and attempt to resolve the outstanding issues. Our estimated timeframe to return to the council on this matter is February 2005</p>
275	Pico Rivera-Whittier-Santa Fe Springs-Valley View-Cerritos	Reroute line in Whittier area. New service to operate on Broadway, Mulberry and Magnolia.	Support: 1 Oppose: 2 Other: 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggest the existing route be retained to the Whittier Depot or modified to operate closer to it than staff had proposed. 	<p>Because the proposed change to this line is linked to the 270 proposal, staff recommends that no decision be made at this line, pending resolution of the meetings with Norwalk Transit. We propose to return to the council in the Spring of 2005 with recommendations, which will take into account the public comments received on this line.</p>

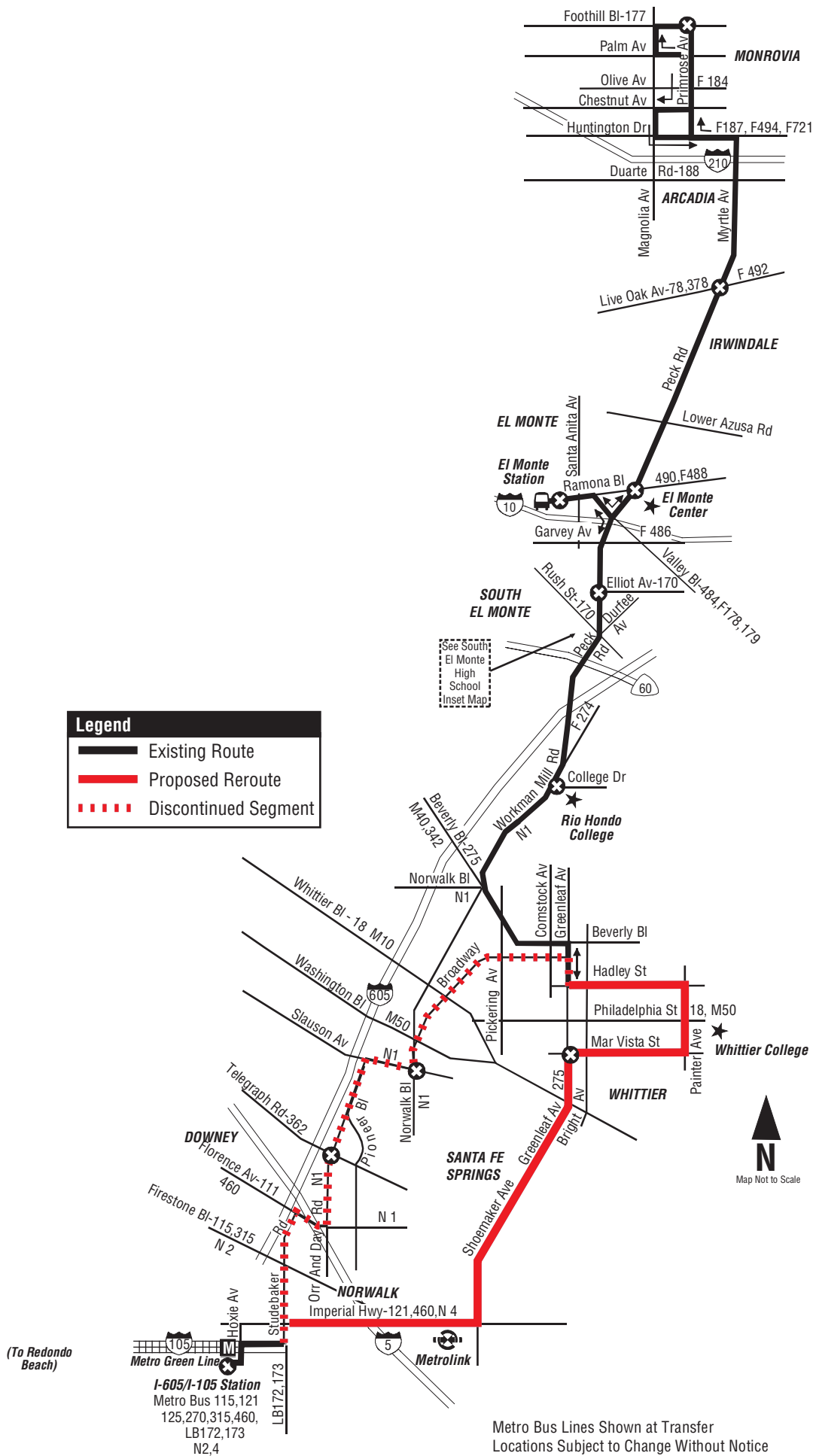
ATTACHMENT D

**LINE MAPS
REVISED SERVICE CHANGE PROGRAM
DECEMBER 2004**

Line 265

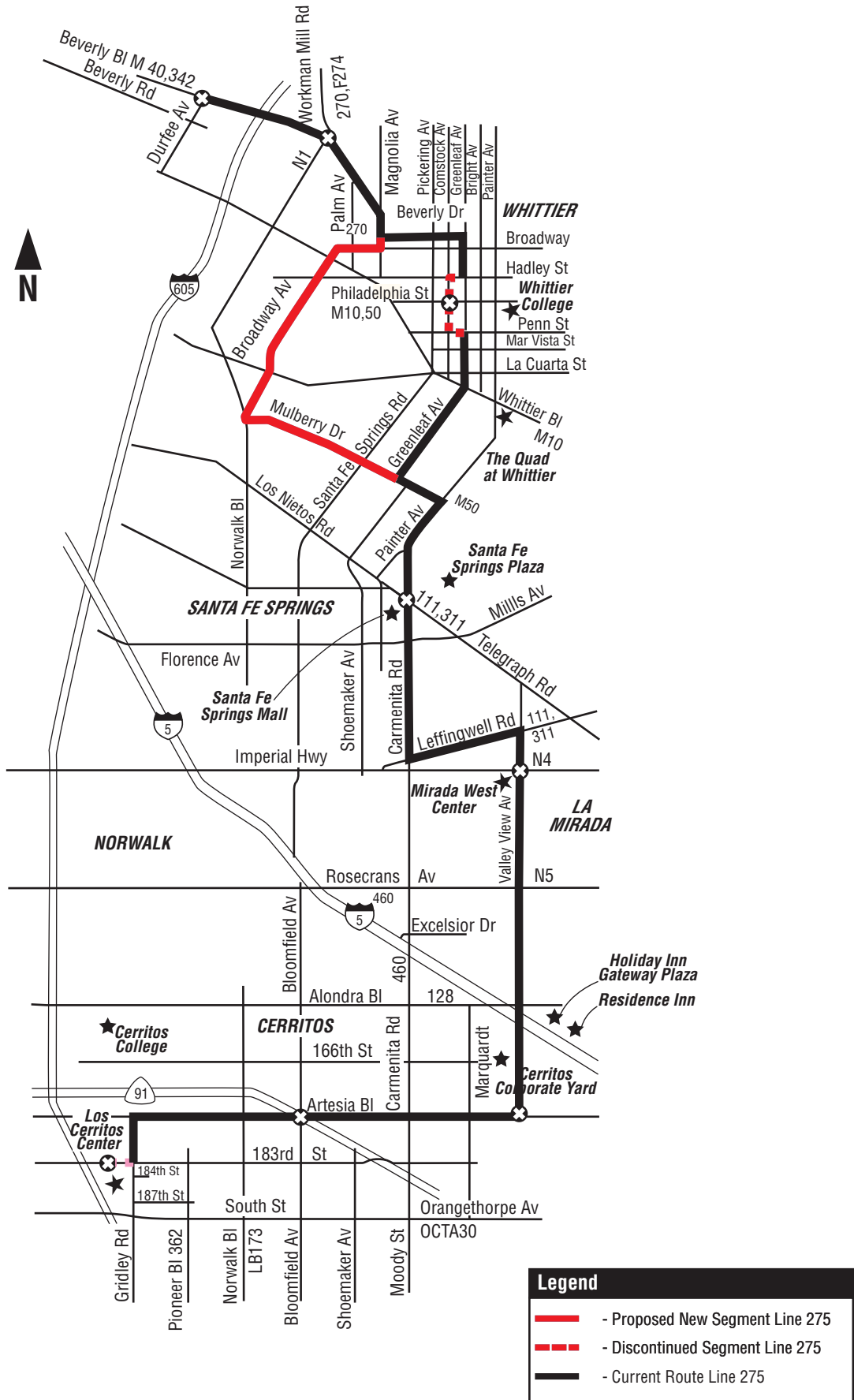


Line 270

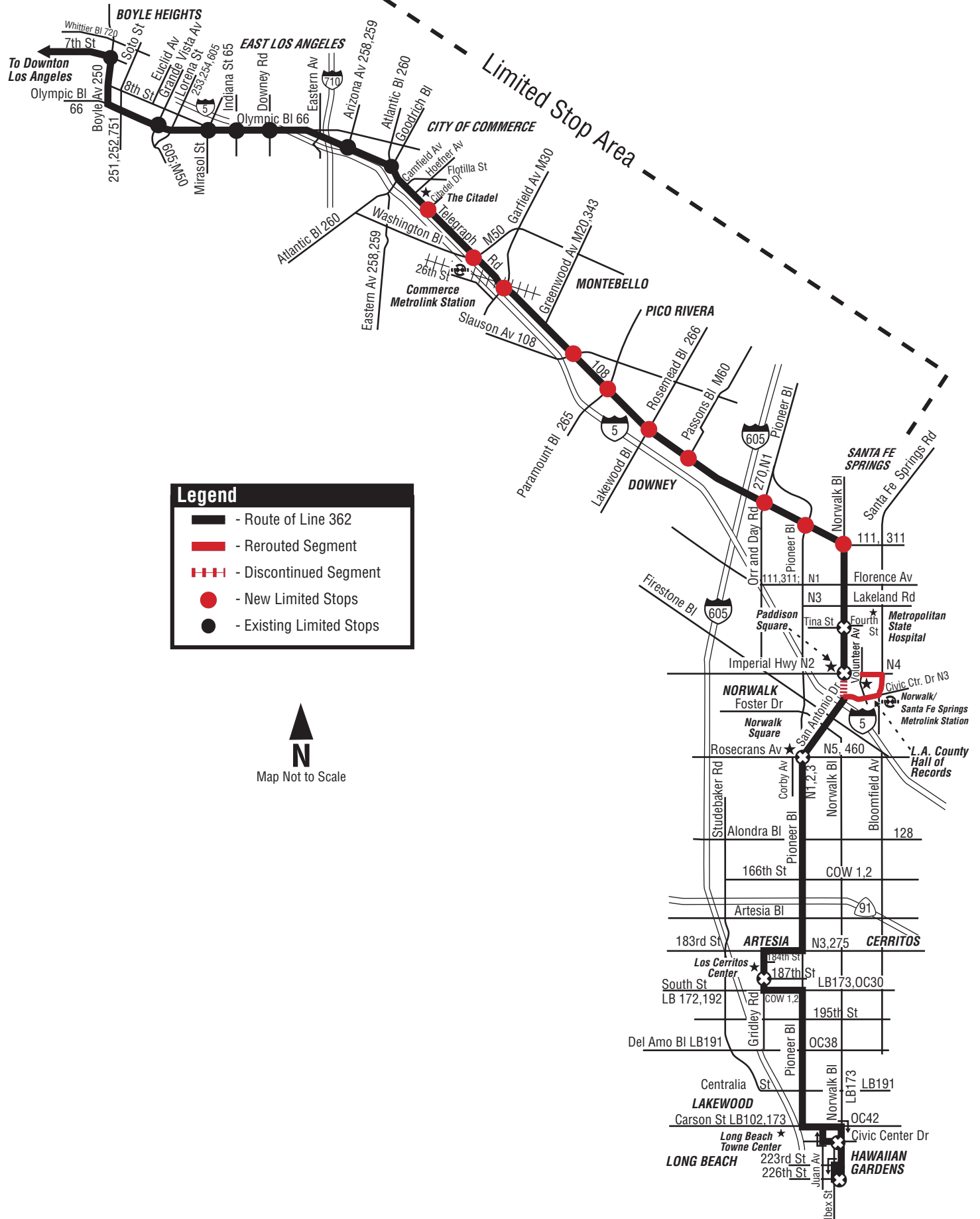


Metro Bus Lines Shown at Transfer Locations Subject to Change Without Notice

Line 275



Line 362

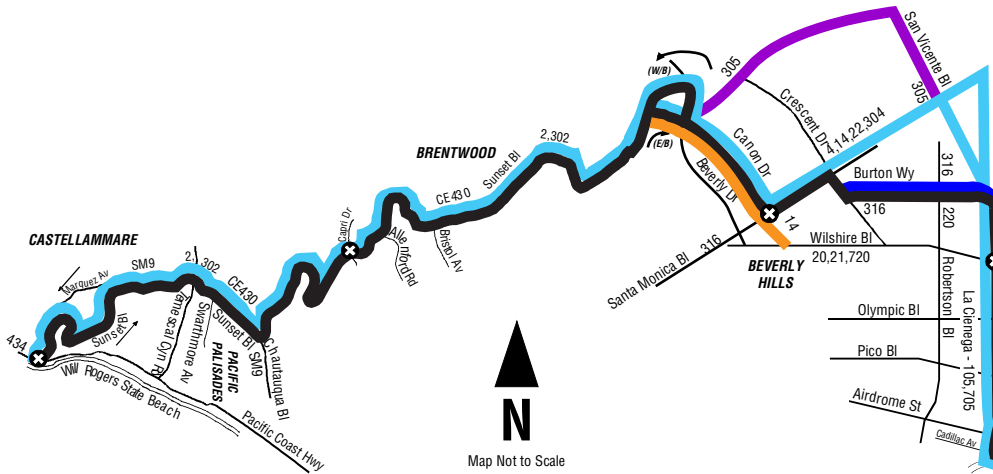


Legend

- Route of Line 362
- Rerouted Segment
- Discontinued Segment
- New Limited Stops
- Existing Limited Stops


N
 Map Not to Scale

Line 576



Legend	
	Line 576 to be Cancelled
Alternative Service	
	Lines 105, 705
	Line 207,357
	Line 434,439
	Line 316
	Line 305
	Line 2,302
	Line 611
	Line 14

