



SAN GABRIEL VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
March 8, 2010

SUBJECT: REVISED METRO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SERVICE CHANGE PROGRAM

**ACTION: APPROVE FINDINGS OF FEBRUARY 2010 PUBLIC HEARING AND
ADOPT REVISED SERVICE CHANGE PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Approve findings of Public Hearing conducted on February 8, 2010 for service changes proposed to be implemented in June 2010 or later;
- B. Adopt Revised Service Change Program as outlined in this report.

BACKGROUND

During February 2010, Metro conducted three public hearings to receive comment on proposals to implement major service changes in June 2010 or later. Federal guidelines and Metro policy require that a public hearing be held when major service changes are proposed. Metro San Gabriel Valley Governance Council conducted a public hearing on February 8, 2010. The system wide Notice of Public Hearing is shown in Attachment A.

The San Gabriel Valley public hearing comprised of two route modifications. Line 180/181 would be split in the Los Feliz area to serve Hyperion Blvd; Line 287 will be modified to operate a new branch from Riggin St. and Atlantic Blvd. over 1st St. to the Indiana Gold Line Station.

Together, the proposed SGV service changes will be cost neutral.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Based on public input, two basic alternatives to the Staff Revised SGV Service Plan:

- 1) Maintain Line 180/181 route modification as currently operated; and
- 2) Maintain Line 287 route and schedule as operated today.

Staff does not recommend alternative two.

The Line 180/181 proposal was to review a route modification in the Los Feliz area from San Fernando Rd. to Sunset Blvd. The headway on Los Feliz would be widened from every

15 to 30 minutes. Ridership along Hyperion Ave. is unknown. Also, Line 175 use to travel in the area to Sunset Blvd. on Hyperion Ave., and it was cancelled due to low ridership.

The Line 287 proposal provides service on a new branch that traverses 1st St. from Atlantic Blvd. to the Indiana Gold Line Station. Service will remain on Floral Ave., and service from El Monte Station to Atlantic Blvd. and Riggins St. will remain unchanged. The proposed change maximizes rail usage for regional trips and preserves bus service for local circulation.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

Both proposals are cost-neutral. Some savings will be achieved by the elimination of Line 31 service on 1st St. from Rowan Ave. to Atlantic Blvd.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was very limited public participation during the review of the proposed service changes. Only one individual and one organization, the Southern California Transit Advocates, provided comments.

In addition, a total of five comments were also received via mail, e-mail, and phone by the close of the public record on February 12, 2010.

A summary of these comments, including suggested alternatives, is provided in Attachment B.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The proposed service modification are consistent with the Metro Transit Service Policies, and further refines the Metro Gold Line bus/rail interface plan as required by the FTA.

Based on the public comments received, Metro San Gabriel Valley staff has made modifications to the original service proposals and is recommending the Revised Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Change Program. This revised program is summarized below:

REVISED SERVICE PLAN

Line 180/181 Route Modification – Staff is not recommending implementing this proposal. This public hearing proposal would create an additional route modification west of the City of Glendale and would widen the headway on Los Feliz Blvd. from every 15 to 30 minutes. The current maximum load point on Line 180/181 is at Vermont Ave. and Prospect Ave. The proposed Hyperion branch would not serve this intersection directly. Patrons walking up from the medical facilities on Sunset Blvd. and the Metro Red Line to Vermont and Prospect would be confused as to where to board the bus, as they would not know which bus would arrive first at the different stop locations. Also, ridership projections are unknown for the corridor. Metro previously has not received any request for service in this area; however, based on the geographical location of the proposed route modification, if additional study is required, it is recommended that the Westside Governance Council and Metro Planning staff should further review the request.

Line 287 Route Modification – Staff is recommending implementing the proposed service because it maximizes rail usage for regional trips and preserves bus service for local circulation.

NEXT STEPS

With the approval of the Metro SGV Governance Council, staff will implement the revised service changes beginning June 27, 2010 or later.

Prepared by: Scott Page, Service Development Manager

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Public Hearing Notice

Attachment B: Findings of Public Hearing Comments & Staff Response

ATTACHMENT A

Public Hearing Notice



Metro

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority will hold public hearings in February 2010 to receive community input on proposed modifications to Metro’s bus services. Approved changes will become effective June 27, 2010 or later. Details of the public hearing dates, times and locations are listed in this notice.

The upcoming public 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 Metro’s Board of Directors in 1993, as amended.

Listed below are the service proposals to be considered at the public hearings, and the service sectors that will be conducting them. In general, the proposed modifications will improve the efficiency of the public transportation system through a better use of limited resources. The public can attend any of these hearings and comment on proposals of interest to them.

METRO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SERVICE SECTOR

LINE	LINE NAME	PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
180-181	Hollywood-Glendale-Pasadena via Colorado Blvd & Los Feliz Blvd	Consider modifying route between the communities of Glendale and Los Feliz to serve Silver Lake area.
287	El Monte-Montebello Mall-East Los Angeles College-Indiana Station	Restructure route to serve 1st St from Atlantic Blvd/Cesar Chavez Ave to 1st St/Indiana St. due to proposed discontinuation of Line 31 service east of Indiana St.

METRO WESTSIDE-CENTRAL SERVICE SECTOR

LINE	LINE NAME	PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
30-31	Pico/Rimpau – Monterey Park via Pico Blvd & East 1 st St	Cancel route 31. Line 287 will assume the portion of service currently operated by Route 31 from Collegian Ave/Cesar E Chavez Ave to 1 st /Indiana Sts
33-333	Downtown LA – Santa Monica via Venice Blvd	Replace service on Limited-stop Line 333 with new Rapid Line 733
217	Vermont/Sunset Station – Fairfax/Washington – via Fairfax Ave & Hollywood Blvd	Consider implementation of short line trips at Hollywood/Vine Station.
733	Downtown LA – Santa Monica via Venice Blvd Rapid	Implement Metro Rapid service on Venice Blvd from Patsaouras Transit Plaza to Santa Monica.

METRO SAN FERNANDO VALLEY SERVICE SECTOR

LINE	LINE NAME	PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
96	Downtown LA-Sherman Oaks via Riverside Dr, LA Zoo	Make permanent minor reroute from Riverside Dr to Glendale Blvd between Fletcher Dr and Glendale Blvd in Silver Lake.
166-364	Chatsworth Station-Sun Valley via Nordhoff St, Osborne St Local/Limited	Minor reroute from Nordhoff St via Reseda Blvd to proposed transit center at California State University, Northridge (CSUN), near Plummer St and Darby Ave.
167	Chatsworth Station-Studio City via Plummer St, Coldwater Canyon Blvd	Minor reroute from Plummer St to proposed transit center at CSUN, near Darby Ave.
168	Chatsworth Station-Pacoima via Lassen St, Paxton St	Minor reroute from Lassen St via Reseda Blvd to proposed transit center at CSUN, near Plummer St and Darby Ave.
240	Northridge-Universal City Station via Reseda Blvd, Ventura Blvd (Branch route of Line 150)	Minor reroute from Reseda Blvd to proposed transit center at CSUN, near Plummer St and Darby Ave.
741	Northridge-Tarzana via Reseda Blvd Rapid	Extend route to Universal City Station via Ventura Blvd; Minor reroute from Reseda Blvd to proposed transit center at CSUN, near Plummer St and Darby Ave. Route to terminate at CSUN or continue to existing terminal at Reseda Bl and Devonshire Bl.
750	Warner Center-Universal City Station via Ventura Blvd Metro Rapid	Reduce weekday peak service and reallocate resources to Line 741.
902	Pacoima-North Hollywood Station via Van Nuys Blvd, Burbank Blvd Local/Limited	Make permanent new demonstration line; Implement new midday service.

METRO PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY SECTOR

February 3, 2010, 6:30 PM

Marvin Braude Constituent Service Ctr
6262 Van Nuys Blvd
Van Nuys

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SECTOR

February 8, 2010, 6:00 PM

San Gabriel Valley Sector Office
3449 Santa Anita Ave, El Monte

WESTSIDE-CENTRAL SECTOR

February 10, 2010, 5:00 PM

La Cienega Tennis Center
325 South La Cienega Blvd
Beverly Hills

Additional details about these proposals will be available for public review after January 20, 2010. To obtain this information contact the address listed below, or visit a Metro Customer Relations Center. Information will also be available at: metro.net.

These proposals may be approved in whole, or in part, at a date following the public hearings. Approved changes may also include other alternatives derived from public comment. Interested members of the public are encouraged to attend the upcoming hearings and provide testimony on the service proposals under consideration. All public comment received will be forwarded to the responsible Sector Governance Council for consideration prior to taking action on these proposals. Persons unable to attend the hearings may submit written testimony postmarked through midnight, February 12, 2010, the close of the public record.

Written testimony sent via U.S. Mail should be addressed to:

Metro Customer Relations
One Gateway Plaza, 99PL4
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2932
Attn: June 2010 Service Changes

Comments sent via e-mail should be addressed to:

customerrelations@metro.net
Attn: June 2010 Service Changes

Comments sent via FAX should be addressed as above and sent to:

FAX Number 213-922-6988

Although the governance council's for Metro's Gateway Cities Sector and South Bay Sector are not making major service changes next June that require public hearings, the public may attend their regular monthly meetings in February and comment on service changes under consideration by the other sectors. Comments received at these meetings will be forwarded to the appropriate service sector proposing the change. Shown below is the regular meeting schedule in February 2010 for the Gateway Cities and South Bay governance councils, respectively:

Metro Gateway Cities Sector
February 11, 2:00 pm
The Gas Company
9240 Firestone Blvd
Downey

Metro South Bay Sector
February 12, 9:30 am
Carson Community Center
801 Carson St
Carson

Upon request, foreign language translation, sign language interpretation, materials in alternative formats and other accommodations are available to the public for MTA-sponsored meetings and events. All requests for reasonable accommodations must be made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Please telephone (213) 922-4600 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ATTACHMENT B

Summary of SGV Changes

Line 180-181 Evaluation

LINE NO.	LINE NAME	PUBLIC HEARING SERVICE CHANGE PROPOSAL	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ALTERNATIVES SUGGESTED	STAFF RESPONSE
180-181	Hollywood-Pasadean via Colorado & Los Feliz Bl.	Consider modifying route between the communities of Glendale and Los Feliz to serve Silver Lake area.	3	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff received a number of suggestions for Line 180/181 that were outside the proposal considered at the public hearing. Staff will consider these in the planning process for future schedule and route changes. • Low ridership potential, Hyperion is a narrow street, unpredictable operation. • Ok for the proposal only if a Line 780 stop is added on Los Feliz at Hillhurst. • Approve change only if Line 180/181 service is increased. 	<p>Ridership potential is unknown, and currently Line 180/181 patronage does not warrant increased service. Staff will investigate adding as stop on Line 780.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Staff Recommendation</u></p> <p>Staff is not recommending implementing this proposal. Metro previously has not received request for service in this area; however, based on the geographical location of the proposed route modification, if additional study is required, it is recommended that the Westside Governance Council and Metro Planning staff should further review the request.</p>

Line 287 Proposal

LINE NO.	LINE NAME	PUBLIC HEARING SERVICE CHANGE PROPOSAL	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ALTERNATIVES SUGGESTED	STAFF RESPONSE
287	El Monte – Indiana Station via Garvey Av. & Floral Dr.	The Line 287 proposal provides service on a new branch that traverses 1 st St. from Atlantic Blvd. to the Indiana Gold Line Station.	1	1	One opposing remark stated that service on 1 st St. should be maintained, but that the 30 minute service on Floral Dr. should also be maintained.	<p>Ridership on Floral Dr. does not warrant 30 minute service. The proposed change maximizes rail usage for regional trips and preserves bus service for local circulation, on both 1st and Floral.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Staff Recommendation</u></p> <p>Maintain the Line 287 changes as proposed</p>