



Metro

DATE: MARCH 14, 2008

SUBJECT: FY 2009 SERVICE CHANGES

ACTION: APPROVE FINDINGS OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ADOPT BUS SERVICE CHANGES FOR LINES 115/315, 124, 126, 202, 209, 211/215, 439, 608, 626, 711, 715, and 940 FOR IMPLEMENTATION JUNE 29, 2008 OR LATER

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Approve the findings of the February 2008 Public Hearings as shown in Attachment A;
- B. Adopt the following bus service changes for implementation in Fiscal Year 2009 effective June 29, 2008 or later:
- Line 115/315 (Playa del Rey – Norwalk via Manchester Av. & Firestone Bl.) – cancel Line 315 and replace with new Line 715; reduce frequency on Line 115.
 - Line 124 (El Segundo – Rosa Parks Station via El Segundo Bl.) – cancel service upon transition to an alternate provider.
 - Line 126 (Manhattan Beach – Hawthorne Station via El Camino College) – shorten route to new north terminal at Crenshaw Station, canceling service on 120th Street and Hawthorne Bl. to Hawthorne Station.
 - Line 202 (Willowbrook – Compton – Wilmington) – cancel service south of Del Amo Bl. to Wilmington; continue service north of Del Amo Station to Compton and Willowbrook.
 - Line 209 (Wilshire/Western Station – Gardena via Van Ness Av.) – cancel midday service and cancel all service south of Imperial Highway to Gardena and to Vermont Green Line Station; continue to operate AM and PM peak hour service to a new south terminal at Crenshaw Station.
 - Line 211/215 (Inglewood – South Bay Galleria via Prairie Av. & Inglewood Av.) – continue service with wider headways, approximately every 60 minutes.
 - Line 439 (Downtown LA – Aviation/LAX Station via I-10 Santa Monica Freeway) – cancel midday and weekend service; continue to operate AM and PM peak service.
 - Line 608 (Crenshaw Connection) – cancel service.
 - Line 626 (LAX Transit Center – El Segundo Employment Center) – cancel service.
 - Line 711 (Florence Metro Rapid) – cancel Saturday and Sunday service.
 - Line 715 (Manchester – Firestone Metro Rapid) – implement new Rapid.
 - Line 940 (Hawthorne Rapid Express) – cancel service.

No changes are recommended at this time to Line 108/358 (Marina del Rey – City of Commerce via Slauson Av.), Line 110 (Playa Vista – Bell Gardens via Jefferson Bl. & Gage Av.), Line 444 (Downtown LA – West Torrance – Rolling Hills – Rancho Palos Verdes Express), Line 445 (Downtown LA – San Pedro via Harbor Transitway Express), and Line 450X (Downtown LA – Artesia Transit Center Express). The service change proposals for these lines will not be implemented in June 2008 but may be considered for future implementation. Line 120 (Aviation/LAX Station – Rosa Parks Station via Imperial Highway) on Sundays will not be cancelled but will require frequency adjustments to preserve the timed transfer at Rosa Parks Station.

ISSUE

The FY 09 budget assumes a reduction of approximately 34,000 annual revenue service hours for Metro South Bay (approximately 2% of our annual total). The routes and segments proposed for cancellation have low ridership. For the riders impacted by cancelled service, alternatives are generally available if not by municipal operator then by Metro in parallel corridors. Attachment B shows estimates of impacted passengers and alternative services available.

Attachment C shows ridership and line performance data for the FY 09 service change proposals. Many of the low performing lines exhibit high subsidies on the order of \$5 to \$9 per passenger. Attachment C also shows the estimated change in annual revenue service hours that will allow Metro South Bay to meet FY 09 budget targets.

OPTIONS

The Governance Council could approve a subset of the staff recommendation. However, this option might not be consistent with available resources, and might require service reductions on other lines leading to overcrowded buses and a general degradation of service quality in high-ridership corridors. Most of the recommended service changes, if approved, would impact low-ridership corridors, and many of these patrons will find suitable alternatives on other Metro lines or from other service providers.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

These service proposals if approved will help Metro South Bay meet its budget targets for FY 09. The MTA budget assumes a reduction of 215,000 annual revenue service hours operated by the five bus service sectors in order to match available funds. Metro South Bay's portion of the reduction is approximately 34,000 revenue service hours.

DISCUSSION

Metro South Bay identified 19 service change proposals and these were published in the public hearing notice in early January 2008. As of February 14 when the comment period closed, the proposals had generated 169 comments either at the public hearings or through written correspondence. Staff has withdrawn seven of the original 19 proposals, and made modifications to others based on the public comments received.

NEXT STEPS

With approval from the Governance Council, staff will implement changes on June 29, 2008 or later on Lines 115/315 (Playa del Rey – Norwalk via Manchester Av. & Firestone Bl.), Line 124 (El Segundo – Rosa Parks Station via El Segundo Bl.), Line 126 (Manhattan Beach – Hawthorne Station via El Camino College), Line 202 (Willowbrook – Compton – Wilmington), Line 209 (Wilshire/Western Station – Gardena via Van Ness Av.), Lines 211/215 (Inglewood – South Bay Galleria via Prairie Av. & Inglewood Av.), Line 439 (Downtown LA – Aviation/LAX Station via I-10 Santa Monica Freeway), Line 608 (Crenshaw Connection), Line 626 (LAX Transit Center – El Segundo Employment Center), Line 711 (Florence Metro Rapid), new Line 715 (Manchester – Firestone Metro Rapid), and Line 940 (Hawthorne Rapid Express).

No changes are recommended at this time to Line 108/358, Line 110, Line 120, Line 444, Line 445, and Line 450X.

Attachment A: Findings of Feb 08 Public Hearings and Responses to Public Comment

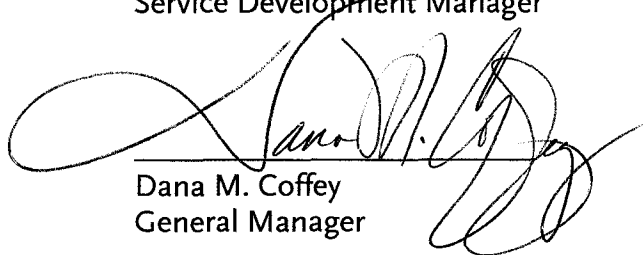
Attachment B: Metro South Bay Proposed Service Changes – Updated March 2008

Attachment C: Ridership and Performance Data for Public Hearing Bus Lines

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