



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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**WESTSIDE/CENTRAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
September 10, 2008**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES TO WESTSIDE/CENTRAL
SECTOR SERVICES**

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

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Approve the findings of the Public Hearing conducted on Wednesday, August 13, 2008 regarding proposed service changes for December 2008 or later (Attachment A).
- B. Adopt the December 2008 Service Program as outlined in this report.

ISSUE

On August 13, 2008 the Westside/Central Service Sector conducted a public hearing to consider public input before coming to the Governance Council with final recommendations to restructure routes 33 and 333. After considering public input, the December 2008 Service Change Program is intended to improve service quality by decreasing travel time through the implementation of limited stop service the entire length of the route.

OPTIONS

Alternatives for the Governance Council to consider in lieu of approving staff's recommendations include:

- 1) Maintain the status quo and do nothing; or
- 2) Adopt a different subset of the proposals

Staff does not recommend either alternative since the proposals are intended to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of bus operations within the sector.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Staff is recommending the routes restructuring that can be implemented within the FY 2009 operating budget. Attachment D outlines revenue service hour neutral and ridership impacts associated with the proposed changes.

BACKGROUND

The December 2008, Service Change Program includes restructuring of Line 33/333. In June and July 2008 workshops were held to solicit input from the public and Governance Council. From those workshops, three alternatives emerged and are listed below.

Alternative One: Extend the current route 333 to Patsaouras Transit Plaza

Alternative Two: Operate route 333 the entire length of the route and local route 33 from Venice/Lincoln to 6th/Main.

Alternative Three: Operate route 333 the entire length of the route and local route 33 from Main/Sunset(Venice) to 6th/Main(Los Angeles).

Alternative One required approximately 7,630 additional hours at a fully burdened cost of approximately \$849,000. Alternative Two would yield a savings of approximately 2,650 hours. However, there were no viable turnaround loops and Operator facilities were limited. Alternative three is service hour neutral.

At the Public Hearing held on August 13, 2008 staff recommended Alternative Three. Consistent with the guiding principles of Metro Connections staff believes this recommendation will simplify service, provide a larger share of expedited service, and allocate resources in response to service demand. If approved by the Governance Council staff proposes to initiate the service changes contained in the public hearing program in December of 2008.

PUBLIC OUTREACH PROCESS

On June 11, 2008 the Westside/Central Sector Governance Council approved a Notice of Public Hearing detailing proposed modifications to sector bus routes. The legal hearing notice was published in area newspapers the dates of which are on file with the Board Secretary's Office.

Media Relations issued a press release on the hearing. Take One brochures were printed for placement on buses and rail lines. The information was also posted on Metro's main website and service sector websites.

The public hearing followed on August 13, 2008, at the La Cienega Tennis Center in Beverly Hills.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Approximately fifteen people attended the public hearing and seven individuals gave oral testimony regarding the proposals. One provided written comments. Comments were received from eight individuals by the close of the public comment period on August 13, 2008.

Two comments opposed the route restructuring. Five comments supported the restructuring; with one comment of conditional support if the discontinued 18 stops on the limited stop service are served during owl service, and another that limited stop service operate until 10pm from Patsaouras Transit Plaza.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS TO SERVICE CHANGE PROPOSALS

Considering public input and review of the proposals presented at the public hearing, staff recommends the options below to the original service change program.

Option 1: Operate the proposed 333 limited stop operation and proposed 33 local stop operation all day on weekdays, Saturday, and Sunday

Option 2: Operate the proposed 333 limited stop and local 33 operations from approximately 5am to 10pm on weekdays, Saturday, and Sunday. Outside of those hours operate the 33 local stop operation the entire length of the route.

In both options there is no proposed change to the span of service and Ocean/Broadway is not a stop for the proposed limited stop operation.

NEXT STEPS

With approval from the Sector Governance Council, staff will implement all changes effective December 14, 2008 or later.

Attachment A: Public Hearing Notice

Attachment B: Maps of Service Proposals

Attachment C: Summary of Public Comments and Staff Response

Attachment D: Revenue Service Hour and Ridership Impacts

Mark Maloney
General Manager – Metro Westside/Central Sector



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Metro Westside/Central Sector

The Westside/Central Service Sector will hold a public hearing on August, 13 2008. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive community input on proposed modifications to Metro's bus services. Approved changes will become effective December 14, 2008 or later. Details of the hearing date, time, and location are listed below.

The upcoming public hearing is 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.

Listed below are the service proposals to be considered at the hearing.

LINE/ ROUTE	LINE NAME	PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE
33/333	Downtown LA – Santa Monica via Venice Bl	Restructure routes 33 and 333 to improve service quality

WESTSIDE/CENTRAL SECTOR
August 13, 2008, 5:00PM
La Cienega Tennis Center
325 S. La Cienega Bl.
Beverly Hills

Additional details about these proposals will be available for public review after July 18, 2008. To obtain this information contact the address listed below, or visit your nearest Metro 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 hearings. Approved changes may also include other alternatives derived from public comment. Interested members of the public are encouraged to attend the upcoming hearing and provide testimony on any service change proposal. Persons unable to attend the hearing may submit written testimony until the public hearing date. All written testimony should be addressed to:

LACMTA
Metro Customer Relations
One Gateway Plaza 99PL4
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2932
Attn: Service Changes December 2008

Metro Public Hearing Notice (Continued)

Comments can also be sent via e-mail with Service Changes December 2008 as the subject to:

customerrelations@metro.net

Facsimile at: 213-922-6988

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.

Restructure Line 33-333

Line 333 Union Station to Ocean/Santa Monica

Line 33 Main/6th in Downtown LA to Main/Sunset in Venice

Proposed Limited Stop Area (Patsaouras Transit Plaza to 2nd/Santa Monica)

Current Limited Stop Area (Venice Bl / Figueroa to Main St / Venice Wy)

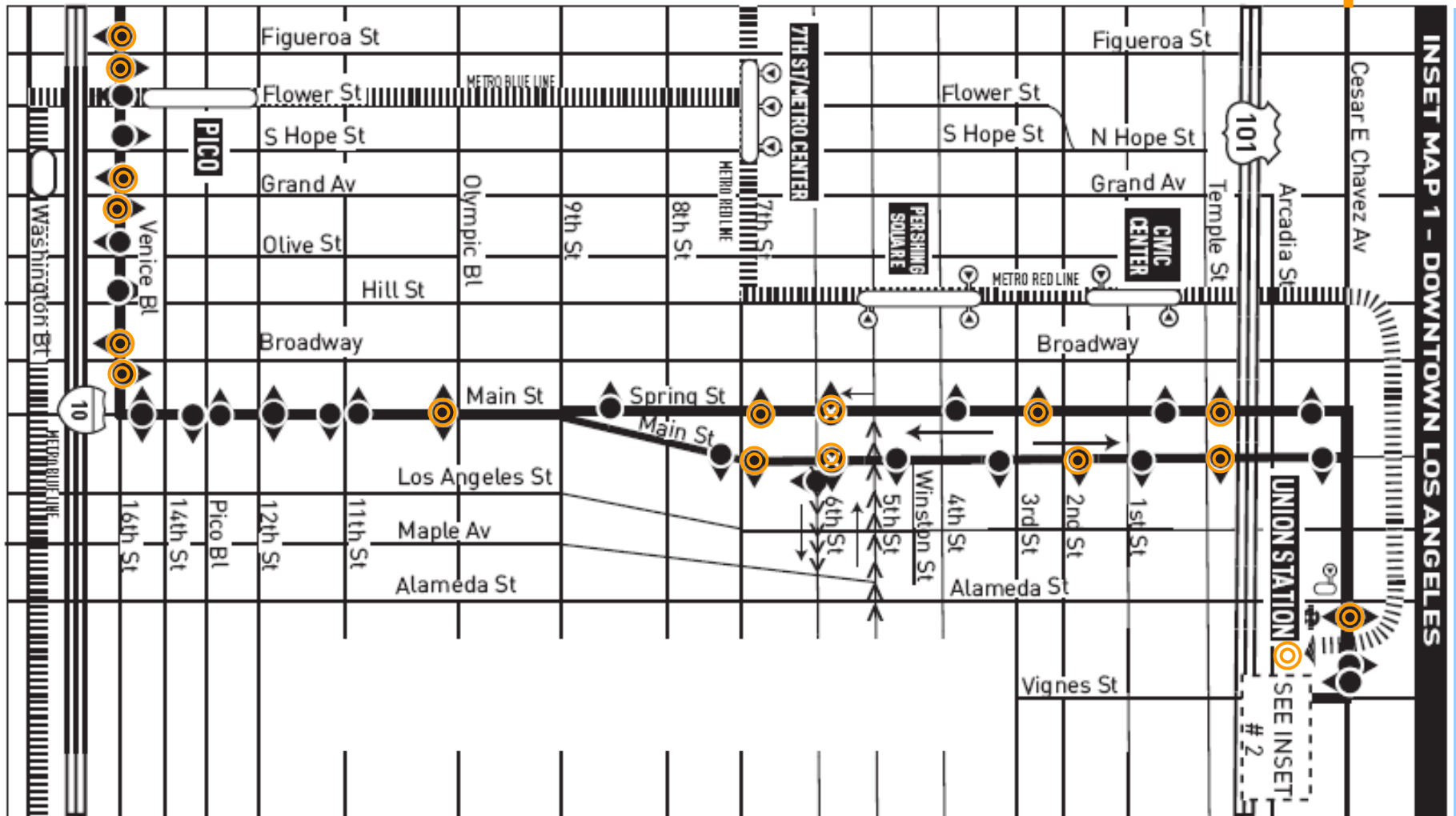


LEGEND

- Current Regional Stop
- Current Limited Stop
- ⊙ Proposed New Limited Stop
- Proposed Limited Stop area

Restructure Line 33-333 continued

Proposed Limited Stop Area (Patsaouras Transit Plaza to 2nd/Santa Monica)



LEGEND



Metro



Downtown Stop



Proposed Limited Downtown Stop



Proposed Limited Stop area



ATTACHMENT C

Summary of August 13, 2008 Public Hearing Findings/Comments/Staff Response for Proposed Westside/Central Service Sector Changes Effective December 14, 2008 or later

ROUTE NO.	ROUTE NAME	PROPOSAL	NUMBER OF COMMENTS	SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ISSUES	RESPONSE
33-333	Downtown LA – Santa Monica via Venice Bl	<p>Restructure routes 33 and 333 to improve service quality</p> <p>Operate the 333 from Santa Monica to Union Station, and the 33 from Main/Sunset(Venice) to 6th/Main(Los Angeles)</p>	<p>Support: 5 Oppose: 2 Undecided: 1</p>	<p>Most comments supported extending the limited stop area. One conditionally supported if the discontinued stops on the limited stop service are served during owl service, and another that limited stop service operate until 10pm from Patsaouras Transit Plaza. One speaker requested Ocean/Broadway on the limited stop service.</p> <p>One comment opposed local service ending at 6th/Main and because Hughes is not a proposed limited stop. One comment indicated service needs to be improved prior to restructuring.</p>	<p>Implement recommendation as proposed.</p> <p>Current 11 local stops between 2nd/Santa Monica and Main/Venice Way would become six limited stops. The distance between these discontinued stops to the nearest limited stops are between .07 and .22 mile (between 370 and 1,162 feet).</p> <p>Current 22 local stops between Venice/ Figueroa to Union Station would become 9 limited stops. The distance between these discontinued stops to the nearest limited stops are between .08 to .28 miles (between 422 and 1,478 feet). Only one stop (Main/Pico) is greater than Metro’s ¼ mile walk standard.</p> <p>Approximately 2,564 patrons (10% of weekday boardings) would need to access a limited stop.</p> <p>By contrast, inclusive of the above, 5,679 patrons (23% of weekday boardings) could avail themselves of the expedited service.</p>



ATTACHMENT D

Revenue Service Hours and Ridership Impacts from Proposed Westside/Central Service Sector Changes
Effective December 14, 2008 or later

ROUTE NO.	ROUTE NAME	PROPOSAL	ESTIMATED CHANGE IN REVENUE SERVICE HOURS			ESTIMATED RIDERSHIP IMPACT		
			Daily	Saturday	Sunday	Daily	Saturday	Sunday
33-333	Downtown LA – Santa Monica via Venice Bl	Restructure routes 33 and 333 to improve service quality Operate the 333 from Santa Monica to Union Station, and the 33 from Main/Sunset(Venice) to 6 th /Main(Los Angeles)	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,564	2,263	1,607