

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Council Meeting of
September 18, 2012

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Transit – Information on the upcoming proposed fall 2012 Transit Department routing and schedule changes

The Transit Department is composed of three divisions that include Administration, Operations, and Fleet Services. The Department is primarily responsible for providing fixed route bus service within the Torrance community and surrounding region. In an effort to improve our overall service, Transit staff has compiled a series of proposed service changes to take effect this fall. The main objectives for these service changes include the following:

- Improved reliability
- Improved connections to the regional network
- Increased service spans
- Simplify access to the transit network, both Torrance Transit and the region

The proposed schedule changes will incorporate trip times consistent with current travel patterns and congestion in the service area. This will promote improved on-time performance and predictability of our service, a tremendous benefit to customers. Service changes being recommended will also provide greater connectivity to important hubs throughout the region, while improving overall productivity of the network by better aligning transit service provided (supply) with ridership levels (demand). While providing service to major hubs is crucial, it is also important to have service span meet the needs of customers. The proposed changes seek to increase service span on routes where most needed, consistent with feedback received. The proposed changes will also help simplify the overall system to attract and retain new riders. This will ensure that public resources are being utilized more efficiently. Finally, because of the nature of transit scheduling, combining all of these changes together will allow staff to employ techniques such as interlining to improve operating efficiencies. Interlining allows multiple bus routes to be operated using shared resources, all while appearing separate to the public. These changes will help maximize ridership, encourage long-term ridership growth, improve operating efficiency, and provide simpler access to the region's transit network.

Included in the proposed fall 2012 service changes are modifications to each of the current eight routes including modifications to the schedule, routing, or both. Every route in the current network will have updated timetables based on current travel patterns to improve our system's on-time performance and provide more convenient connections with other routes. In addition to updating current routes, the Transit Department, plans to launch three new routes. The routes include:

Rapid 3

- This route will provide limited stop service between the South Bay Galleria and the Long Beach Transit Gallery via Hawthorne Bl., Carson St., Avalon Bl., Pacific Coast Highway, and Long Beach Bl.

- This service will operate during Monday-Friday from 6a-9a, and 2p-6p approximately every 20 minutes between the South Bay Galleria and Long Beach Transit Gallery.
- This route will help with high peak loads on our current Line 3 route and provide a quicker alternative for long distance customers.
- Buses will receive unique Rapid branding scheme
- Capital funding provided through Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for purchase of eight (8) compressed natural gas buses for this service, as well as two years of operating funds for this demonstration program. Should the services be successful and recommended for continuation, funding is available through regional funding sources.

Line 4 (HOT ExpressLanes route)

- Line 4 (ExpressLanes route) will provide limited stop express bus service between Torrance and downtown Los Angeles.
- This express service between Torrance and Downtown Los Angeles is part of the ExpressLanes program on the I-110 freeway.
- This route will save current Line 1 downtown Los Angeles riders approximately 25-30 minutes on their current commutes because of its express nature.
- Service will operate 4 northbound trips in the morning and 4 southbound trips in the afternoon on weekdays.
- Capital funding provided through Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for purchase of four (4) compressed natural gas buses for this service, as well as one year of operating funds for this demonstration program. Should the services be successful and recommended for continuation, funding is available through regional funding sources.

Line 10 (result of current Line 5 loop discontinuation)

- Line 10 is a new route, a result of the proposed discontinuation of the current Line 5 loop.
- The new Line 10 will serve the Crenshaw corridor between Pacific Coast Hwy and Crenshaw Green Line Station. The Line 10 extends north of Manhattan Beach Bl. to the Crenshaw Green Line Station providing greater regional connectivity.
- This route will have a frequency of 30 minutes and increased service span on weekdays.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Turner
Torrance Transit Director

CONCUR:

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for LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager