



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Councilmembers Present Plan to Extend Red Line Subway Hours**

*Motion seeks to assist cash-strapped residents throughout the city who use the Valley-to-Downtown service during the winter holiday season*

**LOS ANGELES (August 8, 2008)** – As Los Angeles residents struggle with higher bills and increasing fuel costs in a shaky economy, four councilmembers introduced a motion today to extend the Metro Red Line hours during the upcoming winter holiday season.

The motion would extend Red Line hours from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from November 1 through January 3 to give residents and visitors increased access to public transit during the holiday season.

The motion was co-sponsored by Los Angeles Councilmember José Huizar, Council President Eric Garcetti, Councilmember Wendy Greuel, who chairs the Transportation Committee, and Councilmember Jan Perry.

“As their dollars are stretched thinner and thinner, more and more Angelenos are using public transit here in Los Angeles,” said Councilmember José Huizar. “That’s why I brought this motion to my colleagues. We wanted to make sure people get the most out of their money during the holiday season.”

“Extending the hours of the Red Line in this pilot program is a critical step in creating a seamless public transportation system and will help reduce traffic throughout Los Angeles,” said Councilwoman Wendy Greuel, Chair of the City's Transportation Committee.

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“With gas prices rising we've seen a dramatic increase in public transit ridership. It's imperative that as ridership expands, we continue to expand our public transit system as well.”

"If we're serious about reducing traffic, we've got to provide more opportunities for people who want to get out of their cars, and extending Metro Red Line hours is a great step in that direction,” said Council President Eric Garcetti. “This pilot program will help introduce more people to the Red Line and reduce traffic during the holiday season.”

“By extending the operating hours of the Metro Red Line during the holiday season, we are demonstrating our commitment to connecting the communities of Los Angeles, supporting their efforts to get out of their cars and into public transportation,” said Councilwoman Jan Perry.

If approved, a task force will be convened with Councilmembers whose district include portions of the Red Line, LADOT, METRO and other interested business partners to design a creative and immediate marketing plan to promote the extended service.

Costs for the extended service will be partially funded by private sponsorships.

The motion will next be heard by the Council’s Transportation Committee.

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