

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority One Gateway Plaza 3rd Floor Board Room Los Angeles, CA



Board Report

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Agenda Number:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

Motion by:

Hahn, Dupont-Walker and Garcia

Related to Item 34 (2017-0510): Metro Blue Line Pedestrian Safety Enhancements At Grade Crossings

On Wednesday, September 13th, Los Angeles Police responded to the 200 block of East Washington Boulevard at 3 a.m. on report of a suspect who had stabbed a man with a sword. During the nine-hour standoff, LAPD SWAT was called out and streets were closed around Washington Boulevard and Santee Street. Moreover, Metro Blue Line service was stopped between the Grand-Los Angeles Trade-Technical College and the San Pedro Street stations.

Metro first alerted service riders at 5:28 a.m., with numerous electronic communications sent periodically until service was restored at 1 p.m. During the service interruptions, Metro provided a "bus bridge" to connect passengers who found themselves stranded between stops during the ongoing police activity.

However, many service riders reported lack of awareness on the Blue Line closures, confusion about their alternative route options - particularly for bus bridges, and were severely inconvenienced over the service delays.

We believe there can be lessons learned from this incident as it relates to Metro's emergency response efforts as well as the coordination between law enforcement agencies and Metro riders in order to minimize any negative impacts experienced during often unpredictable police activity.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE, that Metro Staff conduct an assessment, including:

- A. Details on Metro's response to the September 13th incident described above
- B. Metro's coordination between their Transit Safety and their Operations for both rail and bus,
- C. The existing Bus Bridge protocol as it relates to unanticipated line closures,
- D. Metro's public information distribution protocols,
- E. Ways to reduce the duration of service interruption time, consistent with Metro Transit Safety guidelines.

We request Metro Staff to report back on the above items by the October Board cycle.