



Metro Response to Demonstrations for Racial Justice

Item 40 Regular Board Meeting – June 2020



Metro

Timeline of Events

- Monday, May 25, 2020 – George Floyd murdered while being arrested by Minneapolis Police Officers
- May 28 – Growing frustration manifested in demonstrations in cities across the United States
- May 29 – First reports of spray paint graffiti, broken windows and headlights to Metro buses (Div. 5,7,13)
- Afternoon, May 30 – Reports across the County of employees and passengers being trapped on buses and surrounded by protestors, acts of vandalism on Metro buses and property, and track intrusion.
- Late afternoon, May 30 – Metro CEO directs suspension of service, for the safety of employees and public, effective 8:00 p.m. through end of day

Service Suspension

- Announcements of service suspension start May 30 at 6 pm.
- Supervisor units deployed to assist stranded customers
- Rescue bus deployed on Route 33
- Service resumed 5:30 a.m., Sunday, May 31



Property Damage

- 63 Buses reported damage (e.g. graffiti, broken windows, etc.)
- Glass casing destruction reported from South Bay Harbor Gateway Transit Center (Silver Line) up through Nordhoff Station (Orange Line) SFV
- Burned Security cameras, fire damage, destroyed marble tile at rail stations



Mutual Aid Agreement

- Metro is party to the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (most recently affirmed through Metro Board Action on April 28, 2011)
- The state and political subdivisions of the state, including Metro, participate to facilitate implementation of the California Emergency Services Act
- State laws governing mutual aid date back to 1950s
- It is Metro's policy to coordinate with external agencies to ensure effective emergency response

Metro Library Archives

1992 Los Angeles Uprising - Command Post at Division 5



1992 Detainee Transportation at 1st St/Broadway, LA Times Building



After Action

- Metro will endeavor to operate regular service throughout periods of crisis, to the extent possible and while prioritizing safety for operators and passengers
- As needed, buses will be re-routed dynamically to maintain a minimum distance of five blocks from demonstration locations
- CEO direction: Metro shall verify that agencies requesting support for the transport of detainees or law enforcement have depleted their own resources prior to requesting Metro resources
- Staff will continue updating Metro's crisis communications plan and improve protocols for advising customers changes due to emergency situations
- Staff will develop a Customer Toolkit for the Metro website to inform patrons of what they can expect in the event of a local emergency
- ITS to designate a dedicated telephone number for emergency advisories for customers without smartphones



Questions?



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