

SEASONS GREETINGS

WINTER HOLIDAY BUS SCHEDULE

On the following dates:
Monday, December 24, 2007
Tuesday, December 25, 2007
Monday, December 31, 2007
Tuesday, January 1, 2008

the following lines will be running on their weekend schedule:
 178, 185, 187, 195, 197, 269, 272, 274, 280, 281, 284, 285, 286, 289, 291, 292, 480, 482, 486, 488, 492, and the Silver Streak.

No other lines will be running.

Lines 481, 493, 497, 498, 499, 690, and 699 will be running LIMITED service during peak hours on December 24th and December 31st ONLY. Call 1-800-RIDE-INFO (800-743-3463) for schedule details.

WINTER HOLIDAY STORE SCHEDULE

All stores will be closed on the following days:
Tuesday, December 25, 2007

In addition, the Claremont, Duarte, El Monte, Pomona, and West Covina Stores will be closed on the following days:

Monday, December 24, 2007
Monday, December 31, 2007
Tuesday, January 1, 2008

Puente Hills Mall will be open from 10AM to 6PM on the above dates.

Last month's question about shared November birthdays stumped you. Either that or a bunch of you gave up on the quiz for the holidays. And who could blame you? Turkey or trivia? We take turkey! Myrna Alonzo from Montclair took the trivia though and nailed the November 18th date. They'll be getting a free 31-Day pass. This month's topic is WOOD-CHUCKS. Good luck!

Please limit entries to **ONE** per customer. We pick one winner at random from all the correct answers we receive. Duplicate entries could get you disqualified, so no monkey business. Ok?

How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood? (Say it three times fast! Dance, puppets! Dance!)

- A. Lots of wood. They be strong.
- B. Not so much wood. Not strong.
- C. Oh hail Wood!
- D. This is a freebie question where every answer is right. All I have to do is circle any answer and submit it and it will be entered into the drawing for a free pass. Merry Holiday Thing!

Send your answers to Footnotes, c/o Foothill Transit, 100 S.Vincent Ave., Suite 200, West Covina, CA 91790. Please include your personal information, so we can let you know if you've won.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

I ride Line # _____

Daytime phone _____

Evening phone _____

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Jan-1st New Fares!

It's hard to believe how quickly the year has gone by and how much has happened. But there's no time to reflect - we have huge changes coming!

As we announced in the past two issues of Footnotes, we have a fare change coming on January 1st. It means new passes, new prices, and new ways of thinking about how you pay for public transportation. We're going to break down the details in this issue so that EZ Transit Pass users know what sticker works where, so that our discount-eligible customers know when they can actually use their discounts.

No one is happy about a fare increase - not the customers who have to pay it and not the people who have to charge it. This isn't extra padding for the

coffers - this is filling a gaping hole in our money situation caused by both rising costs and funding gaps. No one really wants to pay more for anything.

But here we are. There are some details we need to explain about this fare change. For one, we're introducing a new fare policy: peak periods. For another, the upcharges on certain services, plus the usability of certain passes has changed. We've detailed everything inside so we hope you'll take the time to read this through thoroughly. If you have any questions, contact us at 1-800-RIDE-INFO. Thank you for riding Foothill Transit.



Published for the customers, board members, friends, and staff of Foothill Transit. Articles may be submitted to Felicia Friesema, editor.

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Foothill Transit contracts with Veolia Transportation for management and administrative services, and with First Transit and MV Transportation for operations.

Peaking your interest

What is this peak/off-peak stuff?

Perhaps one of the more complicated new fare policies we've introduced to Foothill Transit is the new off-peak discount fare policy on the Silver Streak (and Lines 481 and 690 too, but as they only run during peak periods we're going to leave them out of the fare matrix for the moment).

Peak period pricing isn't a new concept in public transportation. But it is new to us at Foothill Transit. We can see you pointing the finger at us, wagging it like Ricky Ricardo, and telling us we've got some 'splainin to do. So, here we go.

First, let's define peak time. **Peak hours are defined as 4AM-10AM and 2PM-8PM. No discounts are applicable on the Silver Streak during those times.** Why those times? Those are the time periods when Foothill Transit carries the biggest load of customers into and out of downtown Los Angeles - hence why it's called peak time. You, if you are one of those people, are likely commuting into and out of LA for your regular work week. You've seen the traffic on the 10 freeway during those times. Maybe you've waved at it as you've zipped by along the busway, happy in the knowledge that you are saving money and the environment. Maybe you've enjoyed getting to know your fellow commuters. Maybe you've surfed the Internet on the free WiFi that the Silver Streak offers - the only transit service in the San Gabriel and Pomona valleys that does.

If you do qualify for a discount fare on our service, you will be able to pay the lower rate during any other time of the day. But if you board with a discounted 31-Day Silver Streak pass

Peak periods are
4AM-10AM
and
2PM-8PM
Monday through Friday

No discounts are applied on the Silver Streak during peak periods.

(which is issued to eligible full-time students, seniors, and persons with disabilities) during the peak periods (4AM-10AM and 2PM to 8PM) you will have to pay an upcharge of \$1.25 to board.

Lines 481, 493, 497, 498, 499, 690, and 699 do not run during off peak periods. This means there are no discount fares accepted on any of those lines, since there isn't an off peak period where we can offer one. Discounts on all the Local lines apply all the time, everyday of the week, just like they always have. The Silver Streak discounts only apply during off peak times. And everything else is at full fare since everything else is peak-only service.

No one enjoys paying more for anything. But here's the rub - Foothill Transit has been paying more to operate the service you use, every year. In fact, the cost of running the service has more than doubled in less than eight years. You've seen gas prices lately. That's only one piece of the pie and it's getting bigger every month. So where's the money to pay for it?

Well, there's the other catch - the funding we use to pay for the majority of service so that everyone can

ride for a quarter of the cost is drying up like our water supply. So higher costs coupled with shrinking money - it doesn't take a genius to figure out that the money has to come from somewhere in order to keep the wheels turning. We're cutting costs and working smarter and harder to make sure there are no leaks. We've always run a very tight ship and we waited as long as we could before imposing higher fares on our customers. There comes a time when waiting ends up doing more damage.

New fares go into effect on January 1st. It's going to take a little getting used to. Please be patient with us and your fellow commuters as they get used to the new system. And as always, thank you for riding Foothill Transit.

Some Non-Fare News: Line 481 is going back!

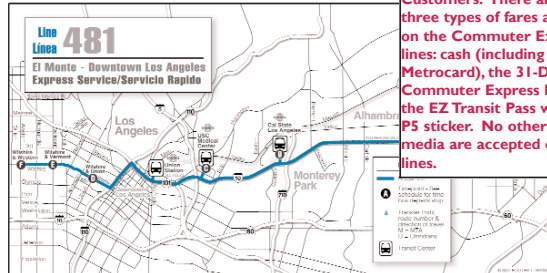
Sometimes the old adage, if it ain't broke, don't fix it, is oh so true. Line 481 went through a pretty major rerouting at the beginning of 2007 when we launched the Silver Streak service. The original idea was to make the lines compliment each other better and serve a wider area of downtown LA. And boy did we get an earful.

We listened.

So now New Line 481 is going back to Old Line 481. We're rerouting it back to its pre-Silver Streak path. It will continue to service Alameda and Los Angeles Street as soon as it exits the busway. Then it gets on the 101 and 110 to continue along Wilshire Blvd.

When? Sometime in January 2008. We'll put an announcement up on the website when we have a date nailed down. This would be a good time for you to sign up for E-Alerts if you haven't already, by the way. The announcement will be delivered to your email box or, if you like, texted to your phone.

Thanks for the input. And as always, thank you for riding Foothill Transit.



THE NEW FARES

Cash Fares	NEW
Adult Local	1.00
Student Local	1.00
Senior/Disabled/Medicare Local	0.50
Silver Streak	2.50
Silver Streak fares also apply to Lines 481 and 690	
Discount Silver Streak*	1.25
Discount fares are applied only during off peak hours.	
Commuter Express***	4.40
Lines 493, 497, 498, 499, 699	
31-Day Pass Prices	NEW
Adult Local	66.00
Student Local**	30.00
Senior/Disabled/Medicare Local**	20.00
Silver Streak	96.00
Silver Streak fares also apply to Lines 481 and 690	
Discount Silver Streak**	48.00
Discount fares are applied only during off peak hours.	
Commuter Express***	155.00
Lines 493, 497, 498, 499, 699	

* Discounted cash fares are for eligible seniors, disabled, and Medicare card holders. **Discounts on the Silver Streak and Lines 481 and 690 only apply during off peak hours. During peak periods (4AM-10AM and 2PM-8PM, M-F), all customers must pay the full, non-discount fare.**

** Discount 31-Day passes are for eligible students, seniors, disabled, and Medicare card holders and require a Foothill Transit Photo ID.

*** **Commuter Express Customers: There are only three types of fares accepted on the Commuter Express lines: cash (including Metrocard), the 31-Day Commuter Express Pass, and the EZ Transit Pass with the P5 sticker. No other fare media are accepted on those lines.**

On this page we have two tables. One should look familiar. One should look completely confusing. But fret not! There is a method to our madness here.

The familiar table is one you've seen in our Bus Book, on cards above your head inside the bus, and in other issues of this fine publication. This, to our left, is the new farechart, detailing all the new fares and all their little caveats and quirks. One of those quirks, peak periods, is explained in rather wordy detail on page two. If you are a Silver Streak rider who normally gets a discount, please take the time to get to know peak periods.

At the bottom of the fare chart you'll see another addendum. This one is vital for our Silver Streak and Commuter Express customers: There are only three types of fares accepted on the Commuter Express lines: full cash fare (or Metrocard), the 31-Day Commuter Express Pass, and the EZ Transit Pass with the P5 sticker. No other fare media are accepted on those lines. There are no upcharges on Commuter Express lines because discount fare media are not accepted on those lines.

And that brings us to the unfamiliar chart below us - **The Upcharge Guide.** Depending on the fare media you use, and the time that your board, and the service that you are boarding, there may be an upcharge that you'll have to pay at the farebox in order to board. We've tried to simplify this information into an easy to read chart that allows you to pinpoint the service you are boarding (along the top) and the fare media you have in your possession (along the side) to see if you need to pay an upcharge (somewhere in the middle). Before the dawn of peak periods, this kind of chart wasn't really necessary. But with the addition of time-focused fares, we thought it would be helpful to break it all down for you.

UPCHARGE GUIDE	Local Service	Silver Streak 4AM-10AM 2PM-8PM M-F	Commuter Express Service	Lines 481 & 690	Silver Streak OFF PEAK
Local Pass:					
Adult	0.00	1.50	*	1.50	1.50
Student	0.00	1.50	*	1.50	1.50
Senior/Disabled/Medicare	0.00	2.00	*	2.00	0.75
Silver Streak Pass:					
Adult (Rear Door Boarding OK)	0.00	0.00	*	0.00	0.00
Student	0.00	1.25	*	1.25	0.00
Senior/Disabled/Medicare	0.00	1.25	*	1.25	0.00
Commuter Express Pass:					
Adult (Rear Door Boarding OK)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
EZ Transit Pass:					
Adult (Includes MetroLink)	0.00	1.50	*	1.50	1.50
Senior	0.00	2.00	*	2.00	0.75
Adult EZ Pass (3-4 Stamps)	0.00	0.00	*	0.00	0.00
Senior EZ Pass (3-4 Stamps)	0.00	1.25	*	1.25	0.00
Adult EZ Pass (5+ Stamps)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Senior EZ Pass (5+ Stamps)	0.00	0.70	*	0.70	0.00
*Not accepted on Commuter Express service beginning January 1, 2008. Customers must pay the full \$4.40 fare.					