

October 17, 2005

Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of
October 25, 2005

**CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL FROM BEACH CITIES TRANSIT
(REDONDO BEACH) TO PARTICIPATE IN FUNDING THE OPERATION OF A
REPLACEMENT FOR THE ROUTE 439 BUS LINE FOR TWO YEARS
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CITIES OF
EL SEGUNDO AND MANHATTAN BEACH**

Recommendation:

That the City Council:

1. Authorize participation in the Route 439 Bus Line for two years as set forth below and direct the City Manager to enter into the cooperative agreement with Beach Cities Transit; and,
2. Approve the use of Proposition A funds.

Background:

MTA line 439 has provided bus service through the South Bay beach cities in some capacity since the early 1900's. The line runs from South Redondo Beach, Rivera Village area to downtown Los Angeles, passing through Hermosa Beach via Hermosa Avenue and continuing on to Manhattan Beach via Manhattan Ave and Highland then to El Segundo and then to the LAX transit center on Imperial and Aviation. The line presently operates from 5:00am to 10:00 pm weekdays and 7:00am and 9:00pm on weekends. It runs on a 30 to 60 minutes headway depending on the time of day.

The portion of the route between Redondo Beach and LAX has been identified by the MTA as "regionally under performing" and has been under review for over a year for possible elimination. MTA policy requires a minimum of 30 boardings per hour for a line to be considered viable. The South Bay segment of the line has about 17 boardings per hour. The South Bay Sector Governance Council of the MTA has at several public hearings over the last year and has set the cancellation of the service for May 2006.

The proposal from Beach Cities Transit (Redondo Beach) would continue the South Bay segment of the line which the benefiting areas paying the costs for the first two years of operation of the Replacement 439 line. The replacement line would continue the same route and schedule.

Replacement 439 Line Costs

The estimated net cost of operating the Line is \$567,600 per year. The portion of the cost, which would be paid by Hermosa Beach, is \$74,984 for the first year. These cost are based on mileage that route covers in each city. The following is a breakdown of contributions from each city.

City of Los Angeles	93,312
El Segundo	183,279
Manhattan Beach	86,639
Hermosa Beach	74,984
Redondo Beach	129,416
Total	<u>\$567,630</u>

The allocations have been adjusted for Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach and Redondo Beach to include a \$5,000 contribution toward the stretch of Vista Del Mar within the City of El Segundo; El Segundo's mileage allocation has been reduced by \$15,000.

These costs would be paid by the participating cities for two years, Beach Cities Transit has assured all of the participating cities that the replacement line will qualify for funding from the MTA, no longer requiring a subsidy from the beach cities. The cost of the buses to be used on the replacement route will be covered by a \$1.8 million grant that Beach Cities Transit has received from the federal government.

The City receives \$284,643 in Proposition A funds. Participating in this program will require setting aside funds in the Fiscal 2006-07 budget year.

Line Usage

Based on MTA ridership information, the present 439 line provides about 200,000 total passenger trips per year. There are 19 stops in Hermosa Beach. It is estimated that 12,495 riders either get on or off in Hermosa Beach year. This is based on weekday averages and does not include weekend usage which is estimated to be another 3123 riders. The line would appear to provide a commuting alternative and help reduce traffic.

Other Bus Service Available in the City of Hermosa Beach

MTA Route 232, which runs on PCH through the South Bay and MTA Route 130, which runs through the City to the Galleria and on.

LADOT This is a commuter express bus that runs along Hermosa Ave and Manhattan Avenue. It provides morning commuter service and the City provides some funding for this service.

Approval Status

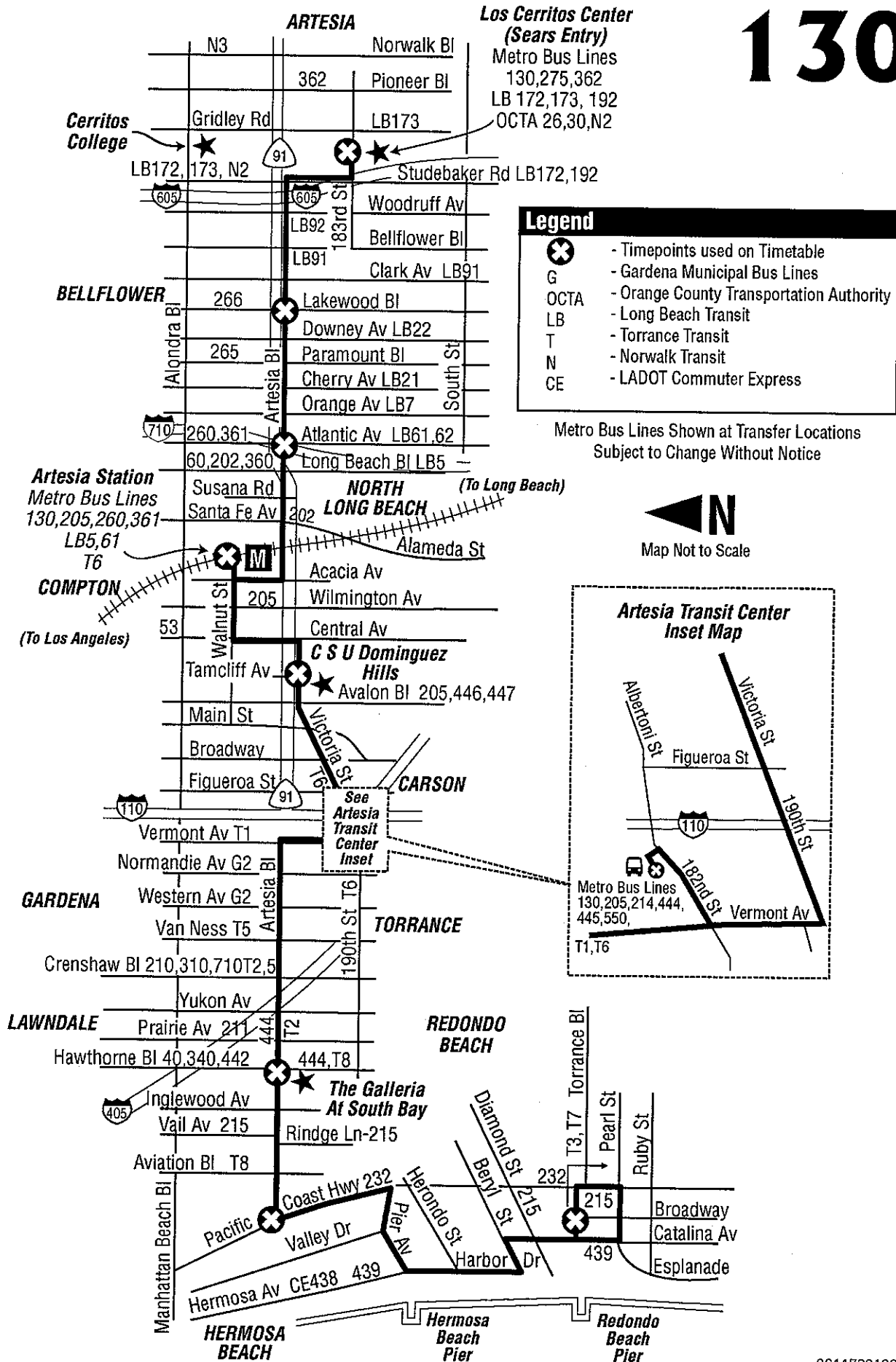
The proposal has been approved by Manhattan Beach at its October 4, 2005 meeting and El Segundo at its October 18, 2005 meeting. Los Angeles has approved its share and Redondo Beach has approved or will approve the project once the Hermosa Beach approves the project.

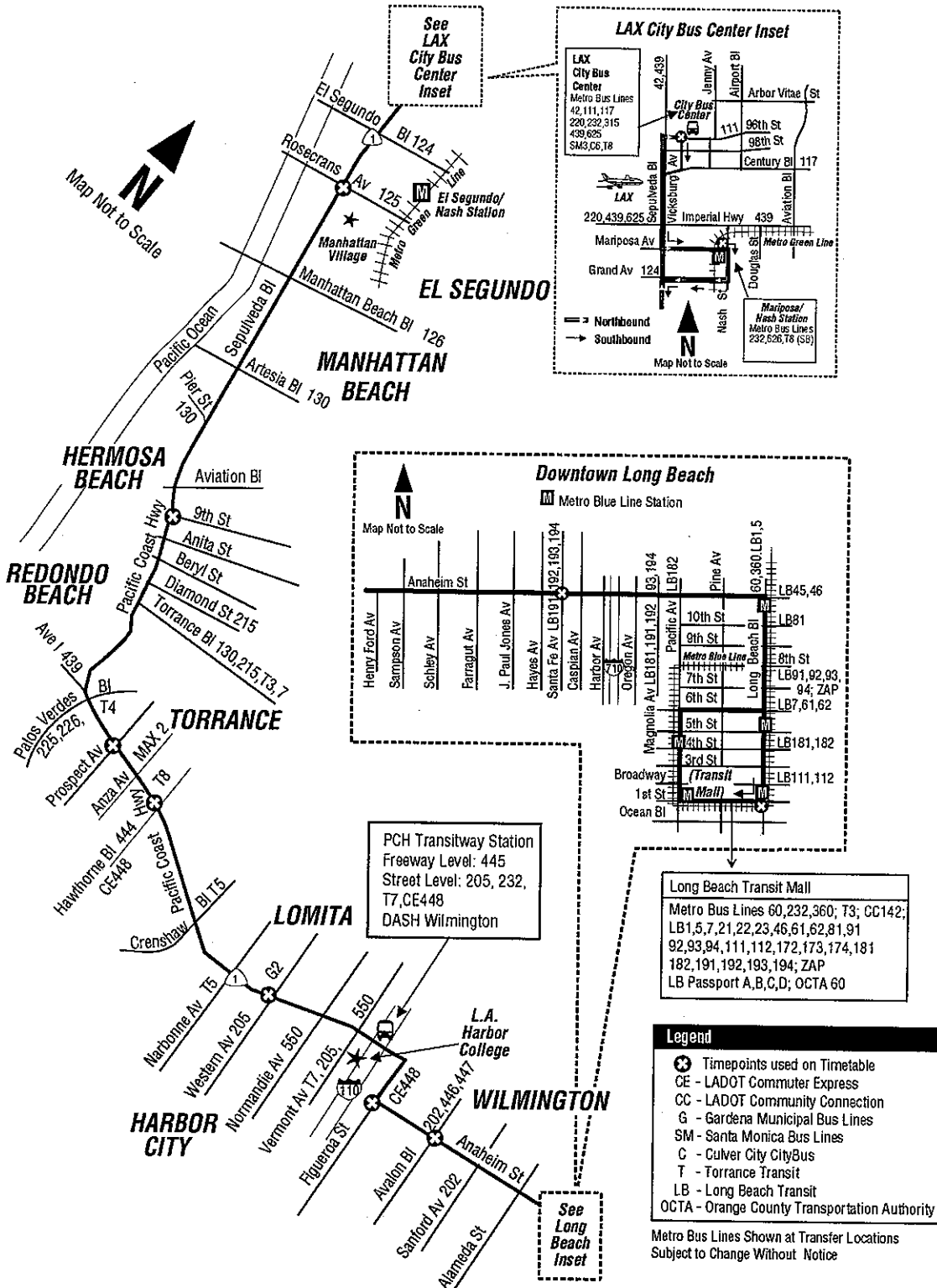
This seems like a reasonable program to participate in with the other beach cities. During the two year funding commitment it might be possible to consider other joint transportation issues that would benefit all four cities.

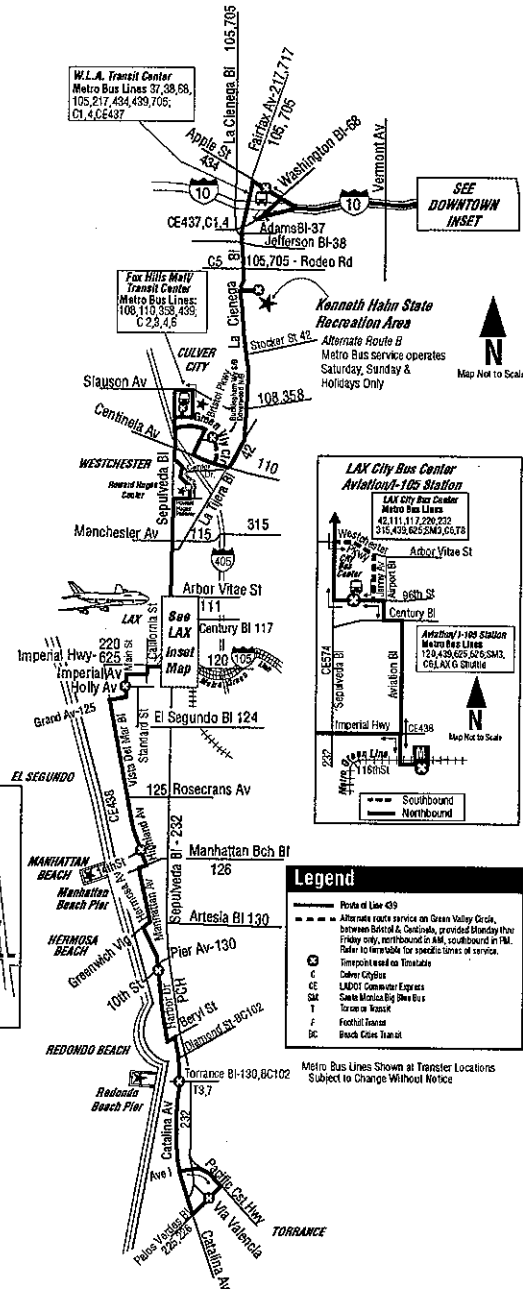
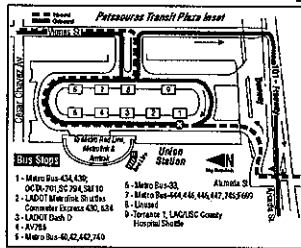
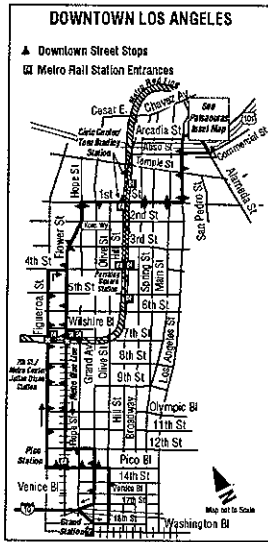
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Burrell', written over a faint, illegible stamp or background.

Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager







Legend

- Points of Line 439
- After one each service on Green Valley Grade, between Belmont, C, Catalina, ground Monday thru Friday only, northbound in AM, southbound in PM. Refer to timetable for specific times of service. Unrepresented on Timetable
- C Delaney CityBus
- CE LADOT Commuter Express
- SM Santa Monica Bay Area Bus
- T Torrance Transit
- F Foothill Transit
- BC Beach Cities Transit

Metro Bus Lines Shown at Transfer Locations
 Subject to Change Without Notice