

Today's MTA Civil Rights Crisis

Cutting Transit Lifelines for Communities of Color

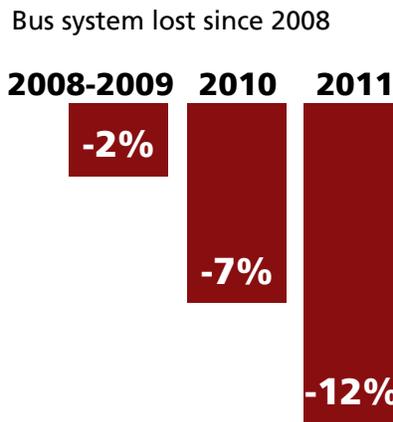
Rolling back progress on past civil rights violations:

- **Federal courts ordered MTA to expand service to remedy civil rights violations from 1996-2006.**
Why has MTA now cut ¾ of that service?
- **MTA once more under federal scrutiny**—Metro is now subject to a civil rights compliance review by the Federal Transit Administration, the first federal intervention since BRU's landmark civil rights lawsuit and consent decree in 1996.

MTA's devastating cuts:

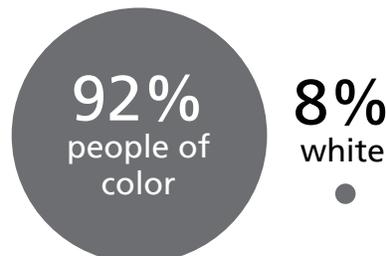
12% of the bus system eliminated since 2008

Cuts have accelerated to 5% of the bus system lost each year for the past two years



Who is being impacted?

MTA's bus ridership is 92% people of color, with a \$12,000 median household income



Civil Rights harms caused by bus service cuts:



Barriers to employment. High unemployment, mostly low wage jobs in transit-dependent areas; jobs in other areas difficult or impossible to reach, especially at night and on weekends.



Longer end-to-end travel time & more transfers. More money spent on fares, less time with family, more chance of arriving late to school or work.



Barriers to education, health care, healthy food, recreation.



Longer walks and longer waits. These are hardships and safety concerns, especially for elderly and disabled and those traveling at night.

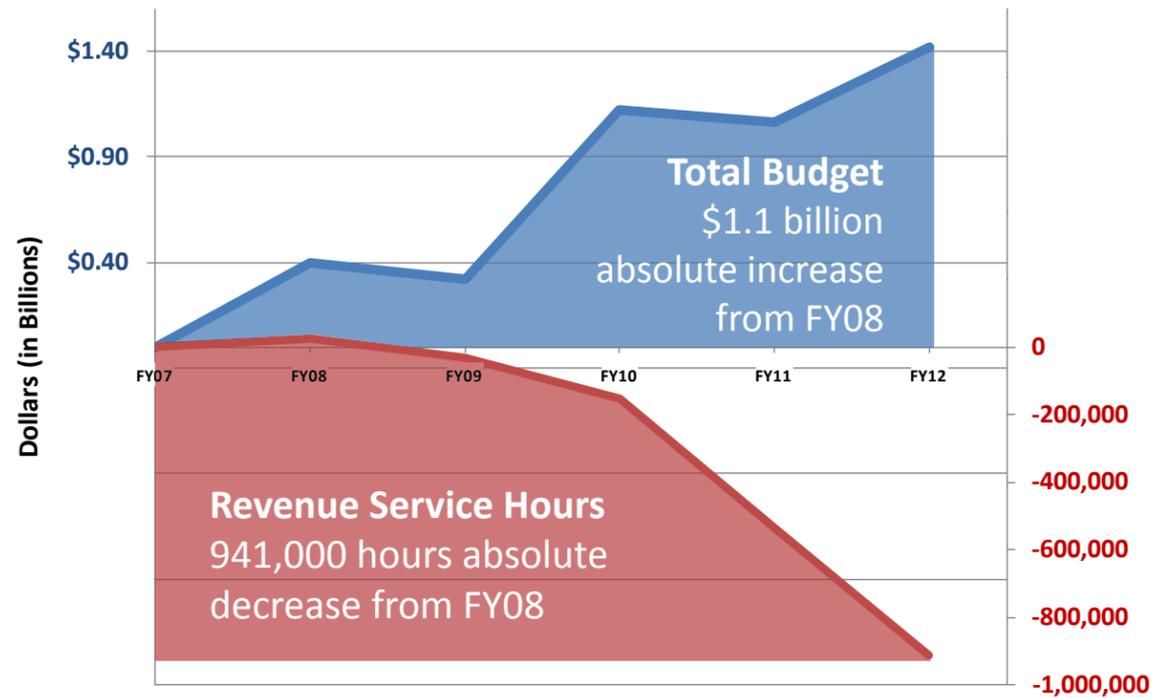


Physical & mental distress

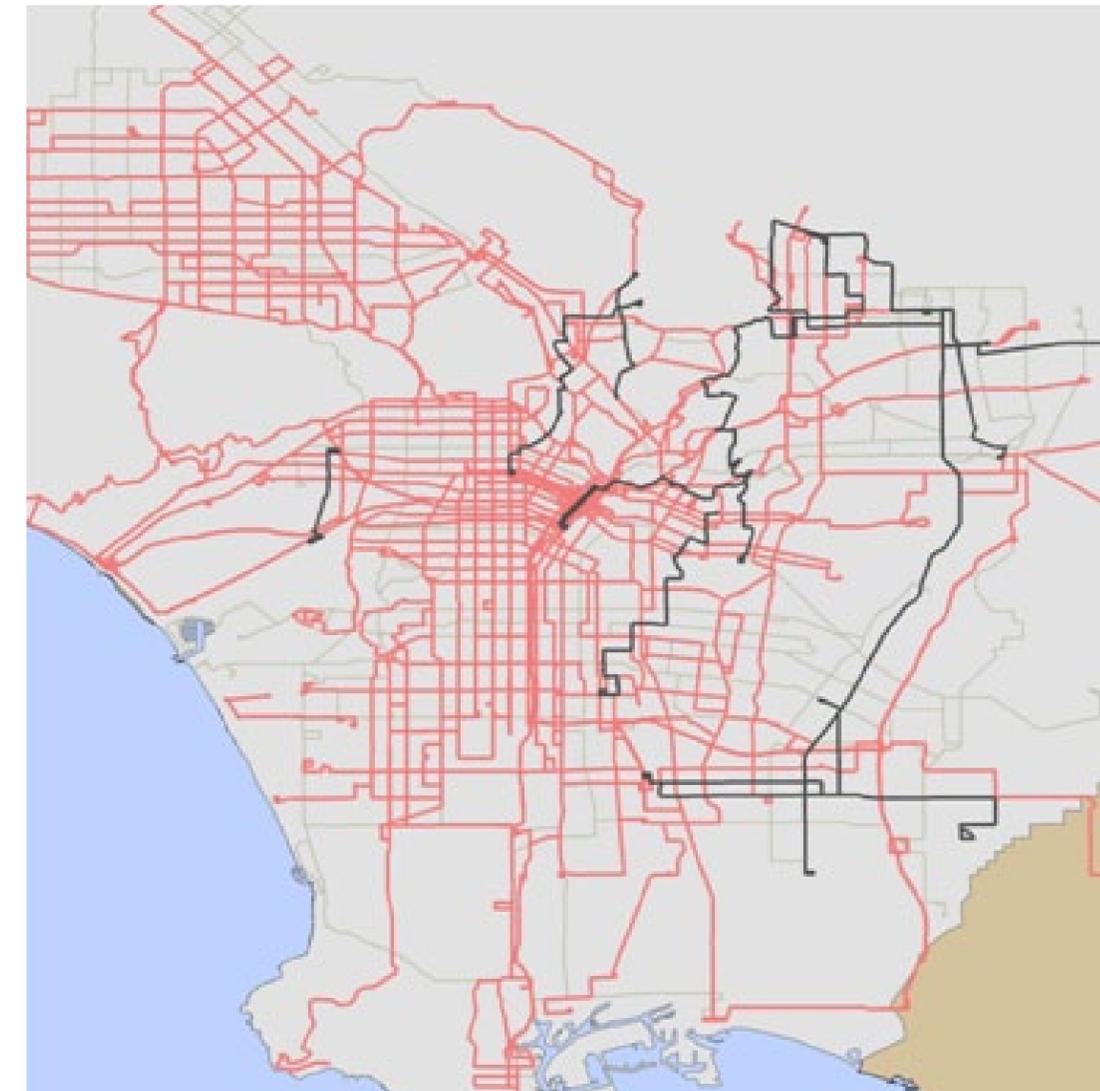
A closer look: MTA rolling back civil rights since 2008

One year of bus service cuts throughout Los Angeles County

Metro's Budget Grows while Bus Service Drops



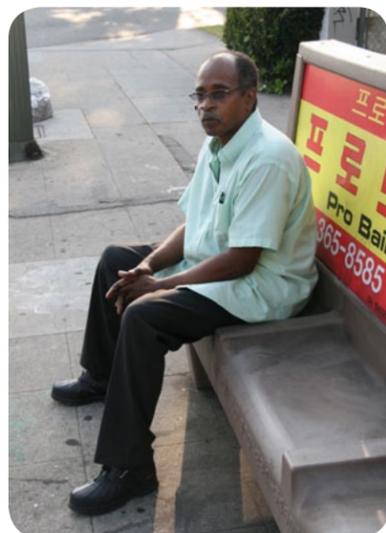
- **52% increase in annual budget since 2007.**
- **25 bus lines with truncated routes** or elimination or reduction of weekend or other service.
- **14 bus lines canceled**, including 6 rapid buses, 2010-2011.
- **Two fare increases since 2007**, increasing price of day pass 60%, weekly pass 50%, and single ride fare 20%.



Metro cut 8.5% of its total service
-- 625,000 bus service hours -- in a 12-month period from December, 2009 to December, 2010

- **No change in service**
- **Reduced service lines**

The Human Cost of Bus Service Reduction: Real impacts of MTA's service cuts



John Lewis

When John Lewis, a 60 year-old native of South LA, was forced out of his job as a bus driver, he started working security. One of his three weekly posts as a union security officer takes him from his apartment in downtown to Culver City. Because of canceled rapid bus service late at night and on weekends and reduced local service, John's trip takes two to three hours door-to-door, including an hour to an hour and a half of walking.



Maria Elena Castañeda

When Metro cut line 31, this 79-year old resident of East LA saw her commute go from 10 minutes to 70 minutes. She now walks 1/3 of a mile to and from the bus stop each day, sometimes in the dark. Last year, she fell and broke her arm on the walk.

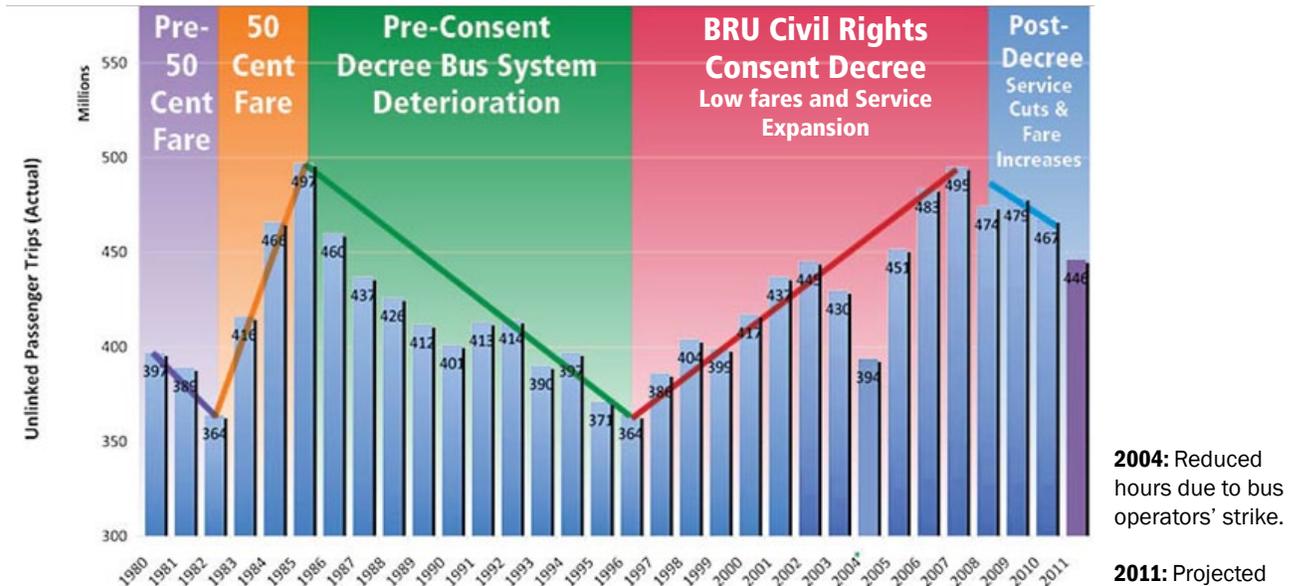


Ana Exiga

When Metro canceled Rapid buses on Central Avenue and Manchester Avenue, the commute from her home in Watts to East LA Community College for this daughter of immigrants became over two hours. The slow and overcrowded local buses consistently cause her to be late to class. Last year, she even missed a mid-term exam due to slow bus service.

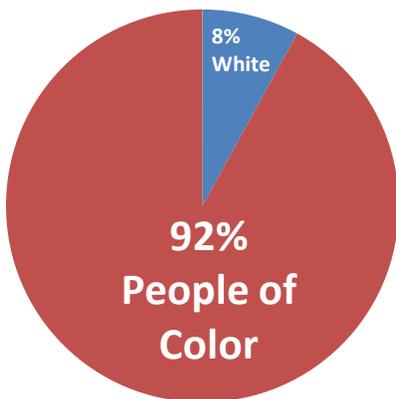
Metro's ridership trends over time:

Policies implemented as civil rights remedies have boosted transit ridership

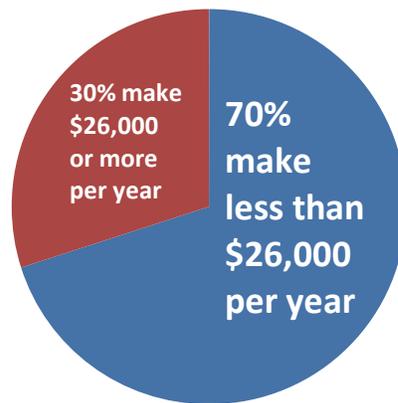


- **Service cuts and two fare increases have driven down ridership.** Metro has lost 57 million annual boardings in four years, having reached a near-record high in annual ridership in 2007 after 10 years of service expansion and low fares under the civil rights consent decree.
- **LA Metro ranks second to New York as the most crowded bus system nationwide.** Metro's claims that its bus system is inefficient and under-utilized are unfounded.

Racial demographics of Los Angeles Metro bus riders



Household income of Los Angeles Metro bus riders:



Bus riders median family income is \$12,000.



Bus Riders Union Community Forum on Civil Rights & Transit

Please become a sponsor, send your members or clients, and attend yourself!

Saturday, August 20, 9:30AM-1PM

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 3300 Wilshire Boulevard @ Berendo

For more information: **213.387.2800** | info@busridersunion.org | facebook: **bus riders union**