

<u>Home</u> > MTS Provides Expanded Trolley Service for Comic Con

Friday, July 16, 2010

Klingon warriors to take over Gaslamp Trolley Station; MTS hosting costume contest

San Diego – The Metropolitan Transit System is celebrating pop culture past and present with Comic-Con International attendees. In addition to offering frequent Special Event red line service from Qualcomm Stadium to the Convention Center, MTS will be hosting a Comic Con-inspired costume contest at the Klingon infused Gaslamp Trolley Station.

Klingons at Gaslamp Trolley Station: Klingons from the Star Trek planet Qo'noS will take over the Gaslamp Trolley Station on Tuesday morning, July 20. The Klingons, from the IKV Stranglehold, will force MTS to install all new Klingon-language signage at the Gaslamp Quarter station. The Klingon take-over of the station will be from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m.

Comic-Con Costume Contest: From 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., MTS invites San Diegans to dress up in a Comic-Con-inspired costume for a contest with Rock 105.3. The winning costume will get a prize pack with 4-day passes to Comic-Con, and four-day MTS passes. Runners up will get one-day passes to the convention and MTS passes.

Expanded event service for Comic Con:

• **Preview Night, Wednesday, July 21:** Special Event Red Line service between Qualcomm Stadium and the Convention Center area, serving Old Town and Mission Valley stations along the way. The Red Line will depart Qualcomm Stadium every 15 minutes beginning at 5:02 p.m. Red Line trains will continue to depart the Convention Center area until 10:05 p.m. Passengers may also use regular Orange, Blue, and Green Line trains.

• Thursday, July 22 and Friday July 23: Special Event 'Red Line' service between Qualcomm Stadium and the Convention Center area, will serve Old Town and Mission Valley stations along the way. The Red Line will depart Qualcomm Stadium every 15 minutes beginning at 7:32 a.m. Special Event Red Line train will depart the Convention Center every 15 minutes until 9:33 p.m., then every 30 minutes until 12:03 a.m. on both days. Late Green Line service to Santee will be operated by these Red Line trains beginning at 10:33 p.m. Passengers may also use regular Orange, Blue, and Green Line trains.

• Saturday, July 24 and Sunday July 25: On Saturday and Sunday, July 24 & 25, the San Diego Trolley will operate special expanded Green Line service to the Convention Center. Beginning at 6:53 a.m. from Santee (7:25 a.m. from Qualcomm Stadium), all Green Line trains will operate past their normal Old Town terminus, continuing on to the Convention Center area. Green Line trains will operate every 15 minutes between Santee and the Convention Center throughout the day. The last train will depart the Convention Center area at 1:55 a.m. on Saturday night.

Attendees coming from La Mesa, El Cajon, and Santee will have two choices: take either the Orange Line or the Green Line to the Convention Center. The travel time from these areas is virtually the same either way (approx. 60 minutes from Santee). Expanded Green Line service continues from the Convention Center toward Santee until 1:55 a.m. on Saturday night/Sunday morning, and 6:10 p.m. on Sunday.

Late night service operates every 30 minutes (after 9:40 p.m.).

Visit www.sdmts.com/Trolley/ComicCon.asp for more detailed information about service to Comic Con 2010.

Passengers can park for free at Qualcomm Stadium and avoid the traffic and high parking fees in Downtown by the Convention Center. MTS encourages convention goers to take advantage of the MTS day pass and multiple-day passes. A one-day pass is \$5, a two-day pass is \$9, a three-day pass is \$12 and a four-day pass is \$15. Day Passes are available at all Trolley station ticket vending machines and at select locations with ticket sales booths. Most locations now accept debit/credit cards as well.

The San Diego Metropolitan Transit System generated more than 90 million trips in 2009 on m 90 bus routes and 54.3 miles of rail. For further information on fares, routes, and schedules, or to plan a trip, visit www.sdmts.com or call 511.

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