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**CTA Press Releases**



**FIRE IMPACTS BROWN LINE RUSH SERVICE**

02/22/04

Brown Line rush hour service north of Belmont Avenue will be disrupted as a result of a weekend fire that severely damaged a substation that powers the line, the Chicago Transit Authority announced today. Customers who use the 11 Brown Line stations north and west of Belmont should allow for extra travel time during both morning and evening rush hours. Those stations are: Kimball, Kedzie, Francisco, Rockwell, Western, Damen, Montrose, Irving Park, Addison, Paulina and Southport.

Non rush hour service and weekend service is not affected and will run on normal schedules.

The Saturday morning fire destroyed cables at the CTA electrical substation at 4650 N. Lincoln Avenue. It is one of three substations that provide 600 volt current that powers the Brown Line branch. As a result of the damage, the CTA does not have sufficient power to support the heavy demand that is required to run six car trains every three minutes, as occurs during a normal rush hour period.

Instead, during the morning rush hour period, southbound trains will depart from the terminal at Kimball every six minutes and make all stops along the line. Because there will be fewer trains that will fill up faster, additional southbound trains will be added at Belmont via the Purple Line. These trains will provide enough capacity to accommodate customers south of Belmont.

**OFFICIAL FILE**

I.C.C. DOCKET NO. 05-0597  
CTA cross Exhibit No. 1

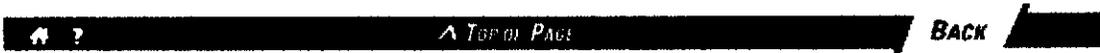
For the evening rush, northbound Brown Line service will run on normal schedules to Belmont, with trains operating every three minutes during the peak. Once at Belmont, only every other Brown Line train will operate all the way to Kimball. Customers should pay close attention to the destination signs on the front of trains. Customers going beyond Belmont should board trains with signs that say "Kimball". Customers exiting before Belmont should board trains with "Belmont" signs.

Witness \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 3/27/06 Reporter CC

The CTA expects this adjusted schedule to remain in effect for a couple of weeks while repairs are made to the substation.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

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**BROWN LINE RUSH  
SERVICE FULLY RESTORED  
MONDAY MORNING**

02/29/04

The CTA today announced that Brown Line rush hour service north of Belmont Avenue will be fully restored for Monday morning's rush period. Fire damage to a substation last Saturday disrupted rush hour service for 11 Brown Line stations. Trains operating out of those stations impacted – Kimball, Kedzie, Francisco, Rockwell, Western, Damen, Montrose, Irving Park, Addison, Paulina and Southport – will resume their normal rush schedule, operating every three minutes during peak morning and evening periods.

CTA staff have worked non-stop since last Saturday to repair the cables and substation equipment damaged in the February 21st fire. CTA has worked with Com Ed to restore primary power for Monday.

"When announcing the impact on weekday service last Sunday afternoon, we estimated that it would take two weeks to fully restore power," said CTA President Frank Kruesi. "But after a round-the-clock effort to bring service back to normal levels for our customers as soon as possible, I am pleased to say that we are fully back a week earlier than anticipated."

Repairs to the substation included removing more than 1,200 feet of damaged power cable and replacing it with new cable; cleaning and testing more than a dozen breakers, transformers and communication lines; replacing 2,400 square feet of hot tar roofing; and the removal of debris resulting from the fire. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

"Last week's alternate service for Brown Line customers north and west of Belmont went well given the circumstances," added Kruesi. "We apologize to our customers for any inconvenience they may have experienced and are grateful for their patience and understanding of the situation."

The fire destroyed cables at the CTA electrical substation at 4650 N. Lincoln Avenue. It is one of three substations that provide 600 volt current that powers the Brown Line branch from Belmont to Kimball. As a result of the damage, the CTA did not have sufficient power to support the heavy demand required to run six-car trains every three minutes, as occurs during a normal rush hour period.

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