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Division 18
Operator
Dionne
Graham
gets ready
for
Rideshare
Week event
with LAX
employees.

Dionne Graham was 'Talking Metro' at LAX's Rideshare Week

By RICH MORALLO

(Oct. 21, 2004) The man had never used public transit in Los Angeles and was wondering how he could get to his job at the airport.

Dionne Graham, a Carson Division 18 Metro Bus operator participating in the recent Clean Air Country Fair hosted by Los World Airports (LAWA) told him how.

"Since he lived in Norwalk I explained how he could use either Metro Bus or the Metro Green Line to get to work," said Graham, as she staffed an information table with bus and train schedules, and other transit information for the 400 employees who attended the event.



Operator Dionne Graham "talks Metro" with LAX employees.

"LAWA employee transit ridership has increased 38 percent in the last year," said Devon Deming, Rideshare program manager at the airport. "This is no accident, and is a direct result of the strong partnership between LAWA Rideshare and Metro South Bay."

A three-year Metro operator, Graham talked about the convenience and value of public transit to dozens of visitors at her table.

Celebrating Rideshare Week

"I came to talk Metro to the airport people since we were also celebrating Rideshare Week," she added. Graham

works with the Division Advisory Council, a group of volunteer Metro staff who promote transit and anti-vandalism themes in the community.

Rideshare Week is a statewide initiative to cut the number of people who drive alone.

"Another visitor had stopped using Metro when he left his job in downtown Los Angeles and started working at the airport," Graham said, "so I gave him a couple of bus lines that would get him to his new job from his home."

The man promised the operator that he would give Metro another try.

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