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Metro Sets Public Hearing on Transit Needs in Santa Clarita

By RICK JAGER

(Nov. 22, 2005) Metro will conduct a public hearing in the Santa Clarita Valley on Wednesday, Nov. 30, to receive ideas and suggestions for meeting public transportation needs in the Santa Clarita Valley.

The hearing will be held at 10 a.m., in Santa Clarita City Hall, City Council Chambers, 23920 Valencia Blvd.

Each year, Metro holds public hearings in areas outside the Agency's service area to determine any unmet transit needs.

Article 8 of the TDA stipulates that a proportional share of the sales tax revenue be allocated to areas in the county that do not have Metro service. Article 8 applies to approximately 5 percent of the County population that resides in the Santa Clarita Valley, Antelope Valley and Santa Catalina Island.

TDA funds must be spent for public transit purposes when a legitimate need for transit service can be identified. However, if no "unmet transit needs" are found, sales tax revenue may be used for street and road purposes.

Following the hearing, and after receiving input from the Hearing Board and Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, Metro will decide whether there are unmet transit needs in the Santa Clarita Valley.