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MSSC vanpoolers save time, money and stress and have a good time doing it, says Vanpool coordinator George Neiro. Pictured above are, foreground, Oswaldo Gonzalez, Oscar Ramirez, Lenny Grech. Back row, from left, vanpool coordinator George Nerio, Justin Elenes, Ricardo Flores, and Richard Gapko. At right, vanpooler James Gappa and vanpool coordinator William Bernard.



Take Rideshare for a test drive Sign up in time for Rideshare Week Oct. 5

By Terree Holman
Employee Transportation Coordinator

(Oct. 1, 2009) National Rideshare Week is approaching and now is the time to join Metro's annual celebration of commuters who rideshare to work during the week of Oct. 5-9. If you don't already rideshare, this is the perfect time to try it. Along with all the benefits of using alternatives to driving alone, you can win prizes!

Metro's Employee Rideshare Program will be conducting drawings to win great prizes for employees that pledge to rideshare to work at least one day during the week of Oct. 5-9. You can be new to ridesharing or already carpooling, vanpooling or using



Give ridesharing a try, says Corporate ETC Terree Holman. Join in the fun, games and prizes during the week of October 5-9. [Pledge online](#) at Metro.net or

public transportation. [Pledge online](#) at Metro.net or visit the Employee Transportation Coordinator (ECT) at your site.

visit the Employee Transportation Coordinator (ECT) at your site. For more information, contact [Terree Holman](#), at (213) 922-4863.

You can also fill out a pledge form by visiting the Rideshare booth on Wednesday, Oct. 7, on the 3rd floor of the Gateway Building between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

What are the benefits of ridesharing? There are some valuable gains to be made:

- Receiving the Metro employee subsidy of up to \$120 a month towards commuting by public transportation or vanpool,
- Escaping the stress and hassles of driving in traffic,
- Having more time to sleep, read, do crosswords or Sudoku,
- Contributing to a cleaner environment,
- Reducing wear and tear on your car, and
- Saving money!

If you need more to convince you to give ridesharing a try, let two current participants in Metro's Employee Rideshare Program speak to their experiences:

Thirty-year employee George Nerio, a Mechanic A at MSSC, has been coordinating a Metro employee vanpool for over five years. Prior to starting a vanpool, he drove alone from Riverside which was 60 miles each way, or 120 miles a day or an amazing 600 miles a week! When asked why he decided to try vanpooling, he said, "You save money for one thing, wear and tear on your car, and you save yourself the stress of having to drive in traffic." He said he usually drives the van in the morning but another participant drives home and added, "It's a good way to travel; I'm satisfied and would recommend anyone to do it."

William Bernard, a vanpool coordinator for three years, is a Bus Body Repairer A/Relief Leader. He explained that he was initially reluctant to give up driving alone because "you get to do what you want, and listen to music you like." But commuting 57 miles one way from Moorpark led him to try vanpooling and discover the benefits of "saving a great amount of money, having time available to sleep and joking around with the guys."

Give ridesharing a try. Join in the fun, games and prizes during the week of October 5-9. For more information, employees may contact the Corporate ETC, Terree Holman, at (213) 922-4863.