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[EMPLOYEE RIDESHARE PROGRAM]

Metro's Rideshare Program encompasses all the alternative forms of commuting to and from work. Alternative Modes include: vanpooling, carpooling, walking, bicycling, public bus/train and Metrolink. To learn more about the benefits of ridesharing and how to enroll, please visit <http://intranet1/hr/Programs/Rideshare.asp> or call (213) 922-4863. Come and join the fun and try ridesharing! You will save money on commuting costs, have more time, contribute to a cleaner environment and significantly reduce the amount of stress you create for yourself by commuting to work alone.

Metro Valentine: Rideshare with Someone You Love

By Terree Holman
Corporate Employee Transportation Coordinator



(Feb. 11, 2009) Meet Metro employees Dan and Lydie Colonello. Dan is a General Services Supervisor for Mail Services and Lydie is a Senior Buyer in the Purchasing Department. Both are veteran participants in the Employee Rideshare Program and have been ridesharing together for the past nine years.

Dan and Lydie Colonello rideshare with someone they love everyday.

Rideshare: Tell me about a typical day of ridesharing...

Dan & Lydie: "Our day starts early, 4:30 am. Once we are ready to leave the house, our first stop is Starbucks to pick up our Venti Americanos, double-cupped! We can't function without our coffee!"

Rideshare: Ah, double-cupped?

Dan & Lydie: "Yes, coffee sleeves do not work as well."

Rideshare: Ok, please continue...

Dan & Lydie: "Once we have our Starbucks, we are off to the Newhall Metrolink Station for the first leg of our daily 74 mile roundtrip commute. We like to arrive early at the train station in order to enjoy our coffee, and to make sure that we get a good seat on the train. The train is always packed."

Rideshare: How long is your train ride? Since you are not driving, what do you do with all of your free time on the train?

Dan & Lydie: "The train ride takes approximately 45 minutes to get to Union Station. Ah, free time. Yes, we enjoy reading the paper or talking to each other. Working takes a lot of time away from us being able to spend time with each other, and the train allows us to spend quality time together."

Rideshare: Why do you choose to ride the train versus driving alone?

Dan: "We enjoy riding the train, because we arrive at work fresh and ready to go. If we were to drive, even carpool together, one of us would have to deal with the stress of driving in traffic, not to mention the wear and tear on our car. Also, when we go through the Santa Clarita tunnel and enter the San Fernando Valley, we see all of the traffic on the freeway! This makes us thank our lucky stars for being able to ride the train."

Rideshare: So, you choose to ride the train even though it may take a little longer than carpooling?

Dan: "Yes! Riding the train is less stressful, saves us money and we get to spend valuable quality time together."

Rideshare: Did you know you save approximately \$238 dollars per month riding the train for a total savings of \$2,858 per year? Not to mention that commuting on the train also reduces your car's CO2 output by 1794 pounds per month, for a total of 21,528 per year.

Dan & Lydie: "Wow! It is a good feeling to know that we are saving money, spending quality time with each other and contributing to creating a cleaner environment."

Rideshare: So, spend some quality time with someone you love, and try ridesharing. Dan and Lydie highly recommend it.

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