



NEWS

MARCH 7, 1996

**CONTACT: RICK JAGER/JIM SMART
MTA PRESS RELEATIONS
(213) 922-2707/ 922-2700
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

MTA ANNOUNCES "TALES FROM THE FAST LANE" CONTEST FOR CAR AND VAN POOL RIDERS

MTA wants to know your funniest, most romantic, most outrageous carpool or vanpool story to help kick off the opening of the longest stretch of carpool lanes in Los Angeles County.

"With the car and vanpool lanes along the 134 Freeway nearing completion, what better way to highlight it's opening this Spring but to have actual users of car and vanpool lanes tell us their interesting stories," said MTA Board Chairman Larry Zarian.

MTA, in partnership with Caltrans and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), is sponsoring the contest which will award top prizes to individuals based on true life tales that occurred while either carpooling or vanpooling to and from work.

The grand prize winner will be announced at the opening of the final segment of the carpool lane running along the 134 Freeway. The top winner will receive a trip for two from Continental Airlines to anywhere in the U.S., Mexico or the Caribbean served by the airline.

Additionally the grand prize winner will receive \$1,000, courtesy of Bank of America and Pacific Bell, and a six-month membership in Family Fitness Centers.

(MORE)

MTA ANNOUNCES CONTEST, Page 2

Participants need to complete an official entry form, available from their employer's transportation coordinators or can be obtained by calling 1-800-COMMUTE. Entries should be mailed to: "Tales from the Fast Lane", MTA Marketing Department, P.O. Box 194, Los Angeles, Ca 90053.

All entries must be received by April 30, 1996. The grand prize winner will be selected by a panel from MTA, Caltrans and SCAG. Decisions of the judges are final. The contest is open to all legal residents of California. Participants must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid California driver's license.

#