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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA Urges Angelenos to Help "Clean Up L.A." Labor Day Weekend

- **Metro Clean Program does its part to help keep region's public transit facilities clean**

In anticipation of the large outdoor crowds expected at Los Angeles-area parks and beaches over the long Labor Day weekend, MTA is urging Angelenos to do their part to "Clean Up L.A."

MTA has been conducting a "Clean Up L.A." public outreach campaign over the last couple of months using radio ads and posters that ask everyone to take personal responsibility for ensuring that public facilities remain clean and graffiti-free for the enjoyment of all. The campaign is part of a broader MTA effort to work aggressively to deter graffiti on all of its trains, buses and facilities.

MTA "Clean Up L.A." ads appear on more than 300 trash receptacles at beaches in Playa Del Rey, Venice, Marina Del Rey, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach for the large numbers of people expected to flock to these shoreline communities starting Saturday.

MTA is also doing its part to clean up L.A. via its Metro Clean Program. In operation since 1995, the program works every day to help keep Metro Bus facilities and surrounding areas clean for the region's public transit customers.

The Metro Clean program gives Los Angeles County courts the opportunity to refer adult and juvenile misdemeanor offenders to the MTA for alternative sentencing in the form of community service. Metro Clean work crews help eliminate blight on public sidewalks, at bus stops, MTA's properties and along MTA's inactive rights-of-way, making them safer and keeping them clear of debris.

"The Metro Clean program provides MTA the opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to the communities it serves," said Roger Snoble, MTA CEO. "We're constantly helping spruce up facilities to make it nicer for people in our communities to take public transportation. While we're making headway, everyone's help is needed to keep our city clean."

In the 2003 fiscal year alone, Metro Clean work crews cleaned up 48,061 bus stops, 32,237 buses, pressure washed 541 bus terminals, and removed 43,117 bags of trash from the streets of Los Angeles.

Open 359 days per year, the Metro Clean Department cleans an average of 134 bus stops, 90 buses and pressure washes another two terminals while removing 120 bags of trash each day. Crews have participated in community clean-ups for Atwater Village, Rampart Police and Lafayette Park.

The City of Los Angeles' Operation Clean Sweep, an anti-litter and anti-graffiti program, removed 29,375,306 square feet of graffiti from 323,562 locations and collected 143,363 bags of trash, weeds and debris citywide in the 2003 fiscal year. The County of Los Angeles anti-graffiti program, Totally Against Graffiti, has removed 5,787,075 square feet of graffiti from private property and right of way and 4,485,797 square feet of graffiti from flood control channels.

Residents who wish to report graffiti in their communities can call the City of Los Angeles graffiti hotline at 800-611-CITY. To report graffiti within the county of Los Angeles, call 800-675-4357.

For more information on MTA or its Metro Bus and Rail services, call 1-800-C-O-M-M-U-T-E or visit MTA's Web site at WWW.MTA.NET.

