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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MTA Announces Free Emergency Vanpool Program for Employers**

- **Companies that establish new vanpools will receive 100% van lease subsidy from MTA**

MTA today announced it would subsidize the vehicle lease cost for new employer vanpools to help employees get to and from work during the transit strike and beyond.

For a limited time, MTA will pay 100% of an 8-15 passenger van lease for at least 30 days from the time a new vanpool group begins. Riders will be responsible for their fuel costs unless their employer makes other provisions.

"MTA understands that the current work stoppage has affected many workers' ability to get to and from work," said Roger Snoble, MTA CEO. "We apologize for this inconvenience, and are committed to working with employers to make vanpooling a viable transportation solution."

To be eligible for the van lease subsidy, employer worksites must be in Los Angeles County and be pre-qualified by MTA. Employers may apply for eligibility as a collective group or as a representative of an industrial complex or multi-tenant building. Vans must be open to the public and be 60% full to receive the vanpool subsidy. Employees must be L.A. County residents or commute at least 15 miles within the county.

MTA is currently outreaching to employers throughout Los Angeles County to take advantage of the program. Boeing Satellite Systems of El Segundo is among the program's early participants. Working with MTA, the company has established a vanpool to transport 10 employees who normally take public transportation between its office and the Metro Green Line Station in Norwalk.

All employer vanpools will be registered on [www.ridematch.info](http://www.ridematch.info), Southern California's regional rideshare web database. The web site provides carpool and vanpool match lists, maps and other resources needed for commuters to initiate rideshare relationships. There are now more than 300,000 rideshare registrants currently in the database, with more added every day.

MTA has also recently announced the launch of the "Metro School Pool" Rideshare Program, which works with public, private and charter schools and school districts to establish an exclusive database of families interested in forming or joining a carpool at specific elementary and secondary school campuses within Los Angeles County.

For additional information or to participate in the MTA emergency vanpool program, call 213-922-2445.

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