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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA Board of Directors Approves Nine Metro Freeway Service Patrol Contracts to Aid Stranded Motorists

The MTA Board of Directors today approved nine three-year contracts valued at \$11.5 million that will keep the Metro Freeway Service Patrol (MFSP) in operation assisting stranded motorists along various Los Angeles County freeways.

The MFSP program consists of 41 different designated freeway segments or "beats" served by 147 tow trucks that patrol more than 400 miles of congested freeway.

Three new contractors are joining the Metro Freeway Service Patrol is to minimize traffic congestion caused by minor incidents such as the need to change flat tires, jump-start cars, refill radiators, tape leaky hoses, and put a gallon of fuel in empty tanks. If the tow truck driver cannot get a disabled car running within a few minutes, the vehicle will be towed away to a safe location off the freeway.

Statistics show that on more than 70 percent of the assists made, the wait time for Metro Freeway Service Patrol service is less than five minutes.

The MFSP was started in 1991. Since then more than 3.7million motorists have been helped. Metro, California Highway Patrol (CHP) and Caltrans jointly manage the program. Metro funds the program through local Proposition "C" sales tax and state highway funds.

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