



March 15, 2004

**CONTACT:**

**José Ubaldó/Marc Littman**

MTA MEDIA RELATIONS

(213) 922-3087/922-2700

[www.metro.net/press/pressroom](http://www.metro.net/press/pressroom)

**e-mail:** [mediarelations@metro.net](mailto:mediarelations@metro.net)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

---

## **New Metro Web Site Promotes Upcoming Bike to Work Day**

- [www.metro.net/biketowork](http://www.metro.net/biketowork): Healthy ways to beat high gas prices

Metro is promoting the Los Angeles region's 10<sup>th</sup> annual Bike to Work Day Thursday, May 20, by offering prizes to those who register online before that day and pledge to ride their bike to work or school. A new commuter bike, bike accessories and other prizes will be awarded to bicyclists who register at [metro.net/biketowork](http://metro.net/biketowork).

This is a new web site that Metro has launched to provide details about the annual Bike to Work Day event, which is co-sponsored by Metro, the California Bicycle Coalition, City of Los Angeles, LA County Bicycle Coalition, the Southern California Air Quality Management District, and Zone Perfect.

With gas prices surging, Metro is encouraging commuters to try bicycling. As a further incentive, Metro will offer free rides on its buses and trains to bicyclists all day May 20 if they board with their bicycle and/or bicycle safety helmet. Nearly all Metro buses are equipped with bike racks in the front of the bus. Cyclists also can bring their bikes on Metro Rail and Metrolink trains for no additional charge though there are some peak hour restrictions on Metro Rail trains, which are listed on the Bike To Work web site.

In the past nine years, Metro has provided an estimated \$83 million for 109 bikeway projects in Los Angeles County. These include bike paths along the Los Angeles River, bike paths in Whittier, Bellflower, the San Fernando Valley, Santa Monica, Long Beach and other cities, as well as bike bridges or underpasses, bike lanes on surface streets and signage.

In addition, Metro has spent more than \$10 million on the Long Beach Bike Station, bike lockers and racks at Metro Rail and Metrolink stations and other public facilities to encourage commuters to bike to work and also for educating children on safe riding habits, and other expenditures.

It is estimated that bicyclists make 2.4 percent of all the daily travel trips in Los Angeles County. Metro's goal by the year 2025 is to double the number of trips to 5 percent.

For more information on Bike to Work Day and Metro supported bike programs, go to [metro.net](http://metro.net) or call (213) 922-2811.

**MTA-049**