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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro to Hold Public Hearing on Santa Catalina Island to Determine Use of Transportation Funds

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) will conduct a public hearing on Santa Catalina Island on Tuesday, November 15, 2005, to receive ideas and suggestions for meeting public transportation needs on Santa Catalina Island.

The hearing will be held in Avalon at the City Hall, 410 Avalon Canyon Road, and will be held in conjunction with their regular council meeting starting at 7:00 p.m.

Article 8 of the TDA stipulates that a proportional share of the sales tax revenue be allocated to areas in the County that do not have Metro service. Article 8 applies to approximately 5 percent of the County population that resides in the Santa Clarita Valley, Antelope Valley and Santa Catalina Island.

TDA funds must be spent for public transit purposes when a legitimate need for transit service can be identified. However, if no "unmet transit needs" are found, sales tax revenue may be used for street and road purposes.

Each year, Metro holds public hearings in areas outside the Agency's service area to determine if any unmet transit needs exist. Following the hearings, and after receiving input from the Hearing Board and Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, Metro will decide whether there are unmet transit needs on Santa Catalina Island.

Those unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments to Metro by December 23, 2005. Comments should be sent to Metro Article 8 Hearing Record, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Attention: Susan Richan (mail stop 99-23-3). For information regarding TDA funds or the public hearing, contact Susan Richan at (213) 922-3017.

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