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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Metro to Hold Public Hearing in Santa Clarita to Determine Use of Transportation Funds**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) will conduct a public hearing in the Santa Clarita Valley on Wednesday, November 30 to receive ideas and suggestions for meeting public transportation needs in the Santa Clarita Valley area.

The hearing will be held at the Santa Clarita City Hall, City Council Chambers, 23920 Valencia Blvd., at 10:00 a.m. The hearing will be held open for comment until the last speaker or two hours, whichever comes first.

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 hearing, and after receiving input from the Hearing Board and Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, Metro will decide whether there are unmet transit needs in the Santa Clarita Valley.

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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