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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro to Offer Free Rides During Holidays to Promote Public Safety

To promote public safety during the holidays, free rides will be offered on all Metro buses and trains starting at 9 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, through Christmas Day, Dec. 25, ending at midnight.

Metro also will provide free rides on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, beginning at 9 p.m. through New Year's Day, Jan. 1, ending at midnight.

"Metro is encouraging people who attend parties and other festivities during the holidays not to drink and drive," said Antonio Villaraigosa, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles and Metro Board Chairman. "Public transit offers a safe alternative, and the free rides are an added incentive."

Metro is the best way to participate in all of the special holiday festivities this year, said Roger Snoble, Metro CEO. Metro, for example, will be providing convenient transit service via the Metro Gold Line to access all of the upcoming Tournament of Roses festivities, including parade, post-parade float viewing and football game.

The Metro Board approved free rides last Thursday after L.A. City Councilman and Metro Board Member Bernard Parks introduced the motion. "Metro continues to show that the safety of its passengers is very important," Parks said. "Together we can ensure that members of our community have a safe, easy, and cost efficient way to and from holiday gatherings this season."

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