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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metro Announces 8th Annual Rideshare Diamond Award Winners

Metro recognized several prominent Southland employers that have led successful rideshare programs in Los Angeles during its 8th annual Diamond Awards held this week.

The annual awards honor businesses that demonstrate their commitment to helping improve air quality and alleviate our region's traffic congestion through carpool, vanpool, public transit and other alternatives to solo driving.

The Walt Disney Company won Metro's coveted Corporate Diamond Award for the company's full-service rideshare program that includes transit and vanpool subsidies and carpool rebates, as well as its corporate leadership in regional and national ridesharing issues.

Nominations for the awards were submitted from employers in four categories: Innovative Rideshare Program or Strategy, Outstanding Marketing Program, Individual or Group Achievement and Shoestring Program.

2005 L.A. area award winners are:

- Outstanding Individual Achievement: Universal Hilton Hotel, Cal Poly Pomona
- Shoestring Program: The Aerospace Corporation- Bicycling Program
- Outstanding Group Achievement: UCLA Transportation Services - Vanpool
- Innovative Rideshare Program: Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association
- Innovative Rideshare Strategy: Los Angeles World Airports – Rideshare, American Apparel
- Outstanding Marketing Program: UCLA Transportation Services, Raytheon, City of Pasadena
- Metro Rewards: Lockton Insurance

A special thank you was given to Rideshare Week Sponsors, including Earthlink, Kaiser Permanente, and the Southern California Automobile Club.

A panel of Metro representatives reviewed the nominations and selected the winners.

For more information on Metro ridesharing, visit www.metro.net or call 1-800-COMMUTE.

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Employee transportation coordinators of the Walt Disney Co. take home top honors in Rideshare Program awards. *Juan Ocampo photo*