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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

METRO ENCOURAGES COMMUTERS TO TRY TRANSIT ON DUMP THE PUMP DAY

With gasoline prices hovering about \$3 per gallon, Metro stresses that now is the perfect time to try bus, rail or vanpool to discover how much money and time can be saved compared to driving. National Dump the Pump Day on June 16, 2016, highlights transit as a way to help save money.

“Every day, Metro puts 2,000 buses on our streets and trains on 105 miles of light rail and subway tracks. There is a very good chance that Metro has a transportation alternative that works for you,” said Metro CEO Phillip Washington.

In the past three months, Metro has expanded rail service from Pasadena to Azusa on the Gold Line and from Culver City to Santa Monica on the Expo Line and ridership has exceeded expectations.

For commuters with a roundtrip drive of at least 30 miles, Metro also offers an extensive program supporting a fleet of 1,400 public vanpool vehicles destined to L. A. County work sites each day. Nearly 90 percent of Metro Vanpool commuters used to drive alone and, based on ridership statistics, vanpooling removes nearly 7,000 cars from local roads each day.

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) estimates an individual in a two-person household in the Los Angeles area can save \$894 per month or \$10,733 annually by taking public transportation and living with one less car.

Commuting to work alone in a car costs more than the price of gasoline. Drivers have to take into account insurance, maintenance, wear and tear and parking at many destinations.

Metro currently has three major rail projects under construction: the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project, the Purple Line subway extension to Westwood and the Regional Connector Transit Project in downtown Los Angeles, all designed to make commuting by transit easier in the region.

About Metro

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is unique among the nation’s transportation agencies. Created in 1993, Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that transports about 1.4 million passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines. The agency also oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related building projects and leads transportation planning and programming for Los Angeles County. Through its oversight of one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is changing the urban landscape of one of the country’s largest, most populous counties.

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