



**John Fasana**

**Metro Board Member**

**Pasadena Metro Bike Share Launch**

**10 a.m. Friday, July 14, 2017**

Good morning!

My name is John Fasana, Board Member for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

As the longest standing board member at Metro, I've seen major transportation improvements come to the San Gabriel Valley over the years.

The arrival of the Metro Gold Line stands out as a prime example of a transportation improvement that has given our residents critically needed new mobility options.

Today we celebrate the arrival of a brand new option, one that will complement the Gold Line as well as offer

everyone a greener, more sustainable way to get around Pasadena without having to drive to get there.

Metro, in partnership with the City of Pasadena, announce the expansion of Metro's innovative Bike Share program to Pasadena, one of the top destinations in Los Angeles County.

It is the second city to participate in Metro's bike sharing program behind the city of Los Angeles, but it is the first for the San Gabriel Valley.

Metro's contractor, Bicycle Transit Systems, Inc., has now installed more than 30 stations citywide that can accommodate 375 Metro Bikes.

Station locations were carefully selected with the help of the Pasadena community, and represent the top destinations that residents and visitors alike will find valuable.

Locations include Old Pasadena, the Rose Bowl, Paseo Colorado, Pasadena City College, Pasadena Convention

Center, the Pasadena Museum of History, shopping and restaurants on South Lake Avenue, and many more.

Bike share stations have also been installed at the Metro Gold Line's Fillmore, Del Mar and Memorial Park Stations to facilitate first mile, last mile connections for our Metro Rail customers.

While bike sharing may be new to Pasadena, it is already well established in most major American cities seeking new solutions to address urban congestion.

It is a preferred option for accessing local destinations that may be too far to walk but too short or inconvenient to drive.

This system has already proven its value in Downtown Los Angeles where it launched a little over one year ago.

Since its launch, that system has logged more than 182,000 trips.

And riders have pedaled over 453,000 miles on Metro Bikes.

I'm confident that a progressive city like Pasadena, which embraces two-wheeled transportation, will equal or maybe even exceed downtown L.A.'s ridership.

Pasadena is just the beginning of a broader effort to bring the benefits of bike sharing to our county.

Under the Metro Board's direction, Metro is now studying the feasibility of future expansion to more than 20 other parts of the county.

Other cities within San Gabriel Valley are also targeted to receive Metro Bike Share in the coming years.

Now, I know everyone has heard the expression 'Summer of Fun.'

It describes outdoor recreation opportunities most associated with the Summer Solstice.

Well, I'd like to coin a new term today.

Metro is now poised to give life to what I call the 'Summer of Bike share' in Los Angeles County.

The Summer of Bike Share officially arrives today in Pasadena.

But summer has only begun.

The Port of Los Angeles will receive Metro Bike Share on July 31.

And in August, Metro plans to launch bike sharing in Venice, one of the top beachfront destinations in all of Southern California.

Before the Summer of Bike Share is over, we will add a total of 125 new stations and approximately 1,400 additional Metro Bikes to the system.

We thank the City of Pasadena for its leadership in sharing costs to implement the program.

As I mentioned, Pasadena is a progressive city, and it is at the forefront of numerous green, sustainable initiatives.

In fact, Pasadena actively sought out Metro's Bike Share Program, and is sharing implementation costs with Metro.

We encourage other cities to partner with us in our overarching mission to create new transportation options for all L.A. County residents.

***(John introduces Terry Tornek)***

It now gives me great pleasure to welcome the Mayor of Pasadena, Mr. Terry Tornek.

***(Terry Tornek speaks)***

***(John introduces Therese McMillan)***

Also with us today is Metro's Chief Planning Officer to provide us with a few more details about Metro's Bike Share Program. Therese?

***(Therese McMillan speaks)***

(John introduces Alison Cohen)

Lastly, our bike share vendor, Bicycle Transit Systems, is helping Metro carry out its broad vision to implement a robust bike sharing system throughout our county.

BTS and its partners have successfully launched or operate more than 40 bike share systems in the United States and around the world.

With us today is CEO Alison Cohen to tell us about the bike share revolution now taking root in Los Angeles County and worldwide.

***(Alison Cohen speaks)***

Thank you, Alison.

At this time, I'd like to invite my fellow officials to walk to the City Hall Bike Share station across the street for the official station ribbon-cutting.

After the ribbon cutting, we ask all riders to please join us as we prepare to break the official banner before our ride around Pasadena City Hall.

Thank you.

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