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Metro Media Relations

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Rick Jager October 3, 2022

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is encouraging the public to "Go Metro" on California Clean Air Day, Wednesday, Oct. 5. Metro will offer free rides on all Metro-operated trains, buses, and Metro Bike Share as part of a statewide effort to encourage people to do their part to help clean the air.

Breathing clean air is not just important for good health, it's a basic human right. And this annual event helps bring cleaner air to the region, especially in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color, which are disproportionately impacted by poor air quality. When Angelenos leave their cars at home and ride Metro instead, we can all breathe easier.

"The best way for residents of Los Angeles County to reduce toxic tailpipe emissions in the air is to leave the car at home and ride Metro," said Metro Board Chair and City of Glendale councilmember Ara J. Najarian. "If people park their cars and ride Metro on Clean Air Day, we know they'll see how safe, clean, and convenient it is to ride Metro. And we hope they'll make it a daily habit."

All Angelenos are invited to participate in the fifth annual California Clean Air Day via a simple, online pledge of at least one action that will help clean our air. One action could be taking advantage of the free rides offered by Metro.

"Leaving your car at home and opting to take transit is a great way to cut your carbon footprint and celebrate Clean Air Day," said Metro Board 2nd Vice Chair and LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn. "As a County, we need to get to the point where every day is 'Clean Air Day' and that is why it is so important that we continue to get more zero emissions trucks and buses on the road and make transit a convenient and reliable option for all residents."

California Clean Air Day, launched by the Coalition for Clean Air, is a program built on the idea that shared experiences unite people to take action to improve our community health. This effort will allow people and communities across California to participate in ways that makes sense for them.

"I was proud to lead the effort through a motion for free transit on California Clean Air Day because transit is a safe, affordable and sustainable mode of transportation for all Angelenos," said Metro Board Member and L.A. County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, representing the First District. "We know that transportation is the number one contributor to greenhouse gas

emissions and poor air quality, so I'm encouraging Angelenos from across the County to leave their car at home on October 5 as we take action for clean air."

"Metro is proud to celebrate California Clean Air Day by encouraging everyone to take transit instead of driving with free rides on Metro train, bus, or bike share" said Stephanie Wiggins, CEO of Metro. "By going Metro, you can do your part to help us reduce tailpipe pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in our region. We hope everyone goes Metro on Clean Air Day and every day!"

All Metro operated buses and trains will offer free rides for California Clean Air Day. Metro Bike Share also will offer free 1-Ride fares for those using the promo-code 100522 on Wednesday October 5. Go to www.CleanAirDay.org (https://www.CleanAirDay.org) to view the Clean Air pledge and see how everyone can be part of this statewide day of action that is easy, fun, and totally California.

Editor's Note: Metro Operators are crucial to keeping LA moving. Metro is currently hiring full-time and part-time bus operators. This is a great career opportunity. Metro offers competitive hourly rates starting at \$23/hr. with benefits that include health insurance, tuition reimbursements, paid training, retirement plan options and flexible working hours. Please encourage friends, family and community members to become a part of the Metro team that provides excellence in service and support and keeps our region moving. Apply at metro.net/driveLA.

About Metro

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is building the most ambitious transportation infrastructure program in the United States and is working to greatly improve mobility through its Vision 2028 Plan. Metro is the lead transportation planning and funding agency for L.A. County and carries about 800,000 boardings daily on a fleet of 2,200 low-emission buses and six rail lines.

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