



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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From: El Dorado County Transit Authority
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El Dorado Transit to Provide Free Transportation on “Spare the Air” Days in 2009

Placerville, CA, April 23, 2009 – For the third consecutive year, El Dorado Transit will offer free fare on its local fixed route and Sacramento Commuter services for “Spare the Air” days in 2009. Each year, during the summer smog season from May through October, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) typically declares several days as “Spare the Air” due to high atmospheric ozone levels in the region. In an effort to improve air quality throughout the region and encourage the use of public transit over driving alone, El Dorado Transit and the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District will once again sponsor the “Spare the Air” free fare program for 2009. This year will represent the third consecutive year that El Dorado Transit has offered the program with statistics showing increased popularity and ridership as a result. Eight (8) “Spare the Air” days were declared during the 2008 summer smog season on which El Dorado Transit experienced an average ridership increase of approximately 25% per day over the previous year.

Sponsorship of El Dorado Transit’s “Spare the Air” Free Fare project will come from a grant for motor vehicle emission reduction projects awarded by the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District in July, 2008. The overall goal of such projects is to reduce air pollution emissions from motor vehicles in the Sacramento Federal Ozone Nonattainment Area. The program is funded by DMV Surcharge Fees. “The wider use of public transit and other alternative modes of travel are vitally important to the future of air quality in our region.” said Mindy Jackson, Executive Director for El Dorado Transit. “We are pleased to work with the County Air Quality Management District to offer these free services and encourage everyone to experience the advantages of public transit.”

El Dorado Transit operates community bus service, six days a week, throughout the western slope of El Dorado County including the towns of Placerville, Cameron Park, Shingle Springs, Pollock Pines, Camino and Diamond Springs. In addition, El Dorado Transit offers weekday commuter routes directly to and from downtown Sacramento as well as connector service to the Iron Point Light Rail station in Folsom.

For more information about El Dorado Transit’s services or trip planning assistance call El Dorado Transit at (530) 642-5383 or visit our website at www.eldoradotransit.com. # # #