



PRESS RELEASE

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AC Transit Contacts: Jaimie Levin
(510) 851-0625

JLevin@actransit.org

Clarence Johnson

(510) 891-4745

Cjohnson@actransit.org

Climate Action Registry Contact: Rachel Tornek
(213) 891-6930

Rachel@climateregistry.org

AC Transit Joins the California Climate Action Registry *First transit agency in the state to commit to measuring greenhouse gas emissions*

OAKLAND, CA — AC Transit has become the first transit agency in the state to join the California Climate Action Registry. The Registry, a non-profit created by California statute in 2001, enables companies and other organizations to create a baseline for monitoring greenhouse gas emissions. As a Registry member, AC Transit will publicly report its greenhouse emissions, which will be verified by independent monitoring organizations.

"Transportation is responsible for over 40% of the state's greenhouse emissions, so we need leadership from organizations like AC Transit on this issue," says Registry President Diane Wittenberg. "We expect AC Transit's decision will influence other large fleet operators to take action on climate change."

AC Transit has already begun this pollution-control process by ordering a fleet of gasoline-electric hybrid coaches, and embarking on one of the most comprehensive hydrogen fuel cell demonstration projects in the country.

Fuel cell buses are clean, quiet, electrically propelled vehicles that only emit water vapor from the tailpipe. Within the next two years, the transit agency will be adding three new, state-of-the-art zero-emission fuel cell buses to its fleet, along with nine fuel cell cars, and a small-scale, onsite, hydrogen energy station.

"By joining the Registry, AC Transit is committing itself to tracking and reducing its greenhouse emissions," says AC Transit General Manager Rick Fernandez.

To bridge the gap to a completely zero-emission fleet, AC Transit has also begun developing a gasoline hybrid-electric fleet of 30' neighborhood buses. A prototype hybrid bus will go into service this year, followed by the as many as 10 new buses in 2006.

Putting these reduced- and zero-emission buses on the streets will decrease air pollution and improve the health of local residents. By monitoring and reducing greenhouse emissions in the process, AC Transit is taking the initiative to curb global warming as well.

"AC Transit has long been a leader in implementing technological solutions to environmental challenges," says Fernandez. "As the first transit agency to join the California Climate Action Registry, AC Transit once again serves as the model for the rest of the industry."

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AC Transit is one of the largest transit agencies in California, serving over 64 million passengers a year throughout a 360-square mile region. For nearly 45 years, AC Transit has been recognized as a national leader in the transit industry. AC Transit has captured the American Public Transit Association's "Best of the Best" Roadeo award five out of the past six years. The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) of Washington, D.C. named AC Transit a "National Clean Bus Leader" for its advanced environmental technology initiatives. Additional information about AC Transit's environmental programs is available at www.actransit.org/environment.

The California Climate Action Registry is a non-profit public/private partnership that serves as a volunteer greenhouse gas (GHG) registry to protect, encourage and promote early actions to reduce GHG emissions. Over 40 major companies, cities, government agencies and NGOs measure and publicly report their GHG emissions through the Registry. www.climateregistry.org