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HIGH GAS PRICES RESULT IN SAVING LONG BEACH TRANSIT USERS \$8,515 per HOUSEHOLD ANNUALLY and \$710 PER MONTH

LONG BEACH, CALIF. (August 1, 2008) – A person can achieve an average annual savings of \$8,515 per year by taking public transportation in Long Beach, CA instead of driving based on today's gas prices, according to an analysis released today by Long Beach Transit and the American Public Transportation Association. According to the "Transit Savings Index" a person can also save an average of \$710 per month based on today's gas price of \$4.279 as reported by AAA in Los Angeles, CA. The annual savings represents more than the average household pays for food in a year.

"We are seeing record numbers of new riders trying Long Beach Transit, translating to a more than 10 percent increase in ridership compared to last year. Many people are fed up with high prices at the gas pumps. If people take the bus a few days a week, or for small errands, the savings really do begin to add up," said Larry Jackson, Long Beach Transit President & CEO.

Gas prices nationally have increased by 179.9 percent since 2003 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The analysis is based on persons getting by with one less car in their household. The top ten cities with the highest ridership are ranked in order of their transit savings based on the purchase of a monthly public transportation pass and factoring in today's local gas prices*.

Top Ten Cities – Transit Savings Index

	City	Monthly Savings	Annual Savings
1	Honolulu	\$725	\$8,703
2	San Francisco	\$722	\$8,667
3	Las Vegas	\$703	\$8,441
4	Seattle	\$701	\$8,413
5	Los Angeles	\$698	\$8,371
6	San Diego	\$696	\$8,356
7	Dallas	\$694	\$8,333
8	Atlanta	\$687	\$8,238
9	Denver	\$686	\$8,230
10	New York	\$685	\$8,218

*Based on gasoline prices as reported by AAA on 7/31/08.

LB Transit Users Save \$8,515 per Household Annually

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APTA calculates the average cost of taking public transit by determining the cost of the average monthly transit pass of local public transit agencies across the country. The assumption is that a person making a switch to public transportation would likely purchase an unlimited pass on the local transit agency, typically available on a monthly basis.

APTA then compares the average monthly transit fare to the average cost of driving. The cost of driving is calculated using the 2008 AAA average cost of driving formula. AAA cost of driving formula is based on variable cost and fixed cost. The variable cost includes the cost of gas, maintenance and tires. The fixed cost includes insurance, license registration, depreciation and finance charges. The comparison also uses the average mileage of a mid-size auto at 23.4 miles per gallon and today's price for self-serve regular unleaded as recorded by AAA at \$4.279 per gallon. The analysis also assumes that a person will drive an average of 15,000 miles per year. The savings assumes a two-person household will live with one less car.

To calculate your individual savings with or without car ownership, go to www.publictransportation.org.

About Long Beach Transit

Long Beach Transit serves over 27 million boarding customers in Long Beach, Lakewood and Signal Hill—as well as portions of Artesia, Bellflower, Carson, Cerritos, Compton, Hawaiian Gardens, Norwalk, Paramount and Seal Beach—with regular bus and shuttle services including the Passport, AquaBus, and AquaLink. For more information visit www.lbtransit.com.

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