

CONTRACT NO. MS16100

MAJOR EVENT CENTER  
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS:

2017 AUTO CLUB SPEEDWAY SPECIAL TRAINS  
FINAL REPORT

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY  
(METROLINK)

September 30, 2017

PREPARED FOR THE MOBILE SOURCE AIR POLLUTION REVIEW COMMITTEE (MSRC)  
UNDER THE FY 2016-18 AB 2766 DISCRETIONARY FUND WORK PROGRAM

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) and the Auto Club Speedway extend appreciation to the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) for awarding a Major Events Center Transportation Program grant to operate special Metrolink train services to the 2017 Auto Club 400 NASCAR race. SCRRA thanks the MSRC Committee for allowing the substitution of Tier 2 engines due to the Tier 4 locomotives not yet approved by the Federal Railroad Administration at the time of the event.

The MSRC Contract Administrators team, led by Cynthia Ravenstein, Ray Gorski and Leah Alfaro, assisted Metrolink staff to obtain special consideration using Tier 2 locomotives allowing a successful completion of our special train service. MSRC staff was instrumental providing their professional guidance during the contract process and submittal of the final reporting requirements.

Metrolink would also like to recognize the Auto Club Speedway and their partner, the City of Fontana, in support of the special train service as a transportation option to the NASCAR race. Mitigating traffic and the impact for the surrounding community for large events is a shared responsibility for all participants. The City of Fontana police department acknowledged the reduction of vehicular traffic through the use of Metrolink service to the NASCAR race. The Auto Club Speedway again continues to support the partnership with Metrolink providing a superior customer experience for their fans and reduction of automobile trips in the region.

Lastly, Metrolink must acknowledge our contractors co-workers who provide support to operate and service the train equipment for the NASCAR race. Both Amtrak and Bombardier have handled train operations and mechanical for Metrolink for both the commuter rail service as well as the special train service for many years. Other Metrolink departments supporting the Auto Club Speedway special train service includes our Customer Service representatives, the LA County Sheriffs, Metrolink Operations, Marketing and Media Relations department to promote the service, supervise the operations of the service and to keep our passengers safe while on the train.

This report was submitted in fulfillment of Contract No. MS16100 and Major Events Center Transportation Program by the Southern California Regional Rail Authority under the partial

sponsorship of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC). The special train service was implemented and completed on March 26, 2017.

## DISCLAIMER

The statement and conclusions in this report are those of the contractor and not necessarily those of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) or the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The mention of commercial products, their sources or their uses in connection with material reported is not to be construed as either an actual or implied endorsement of such products.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PERFORMED

The Auto Club Speedway (Speedway) is a motorsports event center located midway between Los Angeles and Palm Springs in unincorporated San Bernardino County. The Speedway has close access to the I-10, I-15 and I-210 freeways. The 563-acre facility can accommodate up to 100,000 guests and has approximately 27,000 free parking spaces. Each year the Speedway is host to one major NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race attracting fans from all over the country. During the non-racing season, there are full-time racing schools and racing experiences for fans to drive race cars on the oval track or obstacle courses.

Metrolink is Southern California's regional commuter rail service starting in 1992 and is governed by the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, a joint powers authority. An 11-member board representing the transportation commissions of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties, governs the service. Metrolink operates over seven routes through a six-county, 538 route-mile network, which includes a portion of San Diego County. Metrolink is the third largest commuter rail agency in the United States based on directional route miles and the eighth largest based on annual ridership.

The MSRC awarded Metrolink and the Auto Club Speedway a MSRC Major Event Center Transportation Program grant on October 7, 2016 in the amount of \$80,455 to operate three special trains from Oceanside, Lancaster and Oxnard, respectively, to the Auto Club 400 NASCAR race on March 26, 2017. The new Tier 4 locomotives were to be used for the special train service as criteria for the grant. Metrolink staff estimated the Tier 4 locomotives would be

in revenue service by December 2016. The purpose of the project was to reduce the number of vehicles traveling on freeways and mitigate traffic to the event by encouraging fans to take Metrolink train service to the race. .

Metrolink and the Auto Club Speedway began planning for the special train service in the July 2016 in preparation to submit a MSRC Major Event Center Transportation Program proposal. Staff met to review the train operations schedule and discuss marketing and advertising outreach to NASCAR fans. The Metrolink Operations and Equipment departments confirmed availability of equipment and train crews to operate the special train schedules for the March 26 race. Based on previous ticket sales by zip code, it was agreed the train schedules would be the same as 2016. The free ticket offer in 2016 resulted in favorable ridership to the race and was again offered in 2017. Starting in October, Auto Club Speedway free train ticket sales were offered with purchase of the NASCAR race ticket. Auto Club Speedway free train ticket offer was to increase awareness of Metrolink service, expose race guests to an alternative transportation option instead of driving, and create demand pressure to reserve in advance a Metrolink ticket. Peak NASCAR ticket sales are in February and March just prior to the race date.

Three special trains were offered from Lancaster, Oxnard and Oceanside with 15 intermediate stops to drop fans off just outside the Auto Club Speedway gates. Arriving several hours before the race started allowed fans to arrive at the venue with time to experience the NASCAR activities held prior to the race. All three trains were scheduled to arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. provided extra time in the event of any delays of the train.

Both Metrolink and the Auto Club Speedway were committed to increasing ridership on the train and removing vehicle trips for the once-a year NASCAR event. The ridership strategy called for free rides on Metrolink with the purchase of the NASCAR tickets to fill the train seating capacity. The Auto Club Speedway committed their support and resources to co-fund \$185,000 in marketing and advertising in 2017 to promote the special train service. Targeting a younger demographic of NASCAR fans, social media strategies were implemented for the special train service. Both Metrolink and the Auto Club Speedway used Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to reach the racing audience with the free Metrolink ticket offer.

### Purpose of the Project:

SCRRA and the Auto Club Speedway partnered to provide special train service to Southern California race fans encouraging use of public transportation resulting in reduction of automobile trips, relieve traffic congestion, and associated emissions reduction from all five counties where service was offered – Los Angeles, Ventura, Riverside, Orange and San Bernardino counties. Fans have experienced delays of up to several hours leaving the main parking lot at the Speedway after the event has concluded. Offering free special train service to the Speedway provided an incentive to encourage use of public transportation to race fans attending a major event destination and also mitigate vehicular traffic along local arterials and neighborhoods. Through the use of MSRC grants, major event venues such as the Auto Club Speedway and Metrolink as a transportation provider can influence commuting behavior of Southern California drivers.

### Operations Plan

Special Metrolink trains provided NASCAR fans the opportunity to leave their cars at home and utilize public transportation to the Speedway. The three train routes were from Lancaster, Oxnard and Oceanside to the Speedway on Metrolink special trains. The Lancaster route stops included Lancaster, Santa Clarita, Sylmar/San Fernando, Burbank, and Los Angeles Union Station to the Speedway. The Oxnard route stops included Oxnard, Moorpark, Chatsworth, Van Nuys, Covina, Montclair, and Rancho Cucamonga to the Speedway. The Oceanside route started at Oceanside, with stops at San Clemente, Irvine, Orange, Riverside-La Sierra, and San Bernardino to the Speedway. A total of 1,750 seats were available for the three trains at 100% capacity.

Service operations included all logistics to plan, develop, and implement the train service to the Speedway. Starting in January, the Speedway operational plan was discussed at the weekly Metrolink Interdepartmental meetings which also included ticket sales, logistical issues and staffing requirements. The Operations department was responsible for scheduling crews, Sheriff staffing, coordinating with freight railroads for cleaning trains, and dispatching the special trains. The Equipment department coordinated the contractors to clean the trains, water and fuel the trains before the end of the race.

The three special Metrolink trains were scheduled to arrive at the Speedway station by 9:30 a.m. to allow passengers time for the NASCAR fan experience before the race. Upon arrival at the Speedway, dedicated Metrolink trams picked up race fans from the train platform to the race entrance promoting a seamless connection. At the conclusion of the race, Metrolink customer service staff directed passengers to their return train. Metrolink Sheriffs were assigned to ride the trains to ensure a safe trip home.



Day of Event – Sunday, March 26, 2017

The weather on the day of the race was in the mid- 80s with clear skies. A command post was set up at the special train station for Operations, Mechanical, Sheriffs, Signals and customer service staff to coordinate train operations and communicate with the Speedway staff. All three special trains departed from their respective stations on time. The three train schedules are listed below:

Route #1 – East Ventura to Speedway

Oxnard	6:15 a.m.
Moorpark	6:35 a.m.
Chatsworth	7:00 a.m.
Van Nuys	7:12 a.m.
Covina	8:15 a.m.
Montclair	8:35 a.m.
Rancho Cucamonga	8:50 a.m.
Speedway	9:10 a.m.

Route #2 –Lancaster to Speedway

Lancaster	6:15 a.m.
Santa Clarita	7:15 a.m.
Sylmar/San Fernando	7:35 a.m.
Downtown Burbank	7:50 a.m.
LA Union Station	8:25 a.m.
Speedway	9:35 a.m.

Route #3 –Oceanside to Speedway

Oceanside	6:10 a.m.
San Clemente	6:34 a.m.
Irvine	6:56 a.m.
Orange	7:13 a.m.
Riverside-La Sierra	7:58 a.m.
San Bernardino	8:40 a.m.
Speedway	9:10 a.m.

All trains used Tier 2 EMD F125 locomotives for the Auto Club 400 NASCAR race per the modified agreement. The three trains arrived early at the Speedway with no delays. After the passengers detrained, it was time to move the trains to the cleaning area for servicing. All train cars were cleaned, serviced with water and fuel and staged at the Speedway platforms for passenger boarding at the conclusion of the race. The train crews arrived on time back from the hotel with their law enforcement escort. Metrolink coordinated with the Speedway tram operations to ensure all passengers returned to the train platform before releasing the trains. All three trains departed one hour after the checkered flag as planned and no one missed the train.

**PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED**

In January 2017, Metrolink became aware the Tier 4 locomotives would not be available for the Auto Club Speedway race. Metrolink notified the Auto Club Speedway of the situation and temporarily suspended issuing free train tickets until it was confirmed the special train service would be offered. Since the Tier 4 locomotive was a requirement of the MSRC grant awarded, Metrolink staff notified the MSRC Contracts Administrator, Cynthia Ravenstein and Ray Gorski and requested consideration to use Tier 2 locomotives for the special train service. MSRC staff was extremely understanding of the Tier 4 locomotive issue and arranged for a special



MSRC Committee meeting to consider Metrolink’s request to substitute Tier 2 engines for the special train service. On January 25, 2017 the MSRC Committee approved Metrolink’s request to use the Tier 2 locomotives and the AQMD Board approved the changes at its February meeting. Following the AQMD meeting, the Auto Club Speedway began offering the free train tickets again. Unfortunately, there was a three-week period when the free train tickets were suspended resulting in a 5% decline in ridership for the special train service.

There were no operational or equipment delays for the three trains and they departed on time one hour after the race ended.

### EMISSIONS BENEFITS

Metrolink reported 2,566 passenger trips for the March 26<sup>th</sup> NASCAR race which was a 5% decrease from 2016 which may be a result of the three week suspension of free tickets until the Tier 4 locomotive issue was resolved. Although all three Metrolink trains utilized Tier 2 engines for the NASCAR race, the emissions benefits may be lower due to reduced train ridership.

Overall train ridership by route is as follows:

<u>Inbound</u>		<u>Outbound</u>	
Oxnard	495	Oxnard	525
Lancaster	333	Lancaster	337
Oceanside	<u>438</u>	Oceanside	<u>438</u>
	1,266		1,300
Total	2,566		

### PROMOTION AND OUTREACH

NASCAR extensively uses social media to promote their racing events to fans throughout the year. The Auto Club Speedway and SCRRA implemented a digital strategy to leverage the marketing and advertising opportunities to fans. The Auto Club Speedway committed a portion of their paid media to market to their fans through their print campaign, electronic marquee sign on the I-10 freeway, website, e-newsletters to subscribers, radio advertising, press

release, race and train ticket packages to promote the special Metrolink train service as part of the co-funded \$185,000 marketing commitment. Metrolink also committed to a co-funding amount of \$80,000 for marketing and advertising efforts.

Metrolink also utilized a social media strategy to reach their current customer base as well as social followers to promote events and destinations. Metrolink engaged with customers on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social channels to promote the Auto Club Speedway special train service. The Auto Club Speedway race was promoted on the Metrolink website and several e-blasts were sent to our 70,000+ subscribers. Metrolink also featured the special train service and race in the February/March Metrolink Matters newsletter and the Destination and Events page.

Metrolink and the Auto Club Speedway hosted the Auto Club Speedway Day at Los Angeles Union Station to generate awareness of the March 26<sup>th</sup> NASCAR race and free Metrolink train service. A pop up tent was set up inside Union Station to hand out fliers and coupons to Metrolink passengers from 6 – 8 a.m. Passengers had the opportunity to spin the wheel for prize giveaways and generated a large crowd. The event was promoted through a media advisory and both websites to leverage our communications to passengers and race fans.

The following elements were used to promote the special train service to the public:

- Print campaign
  - Auto Club Speedway fliers and ticket brochures
- Newspaper ads
  - Ads featuring Metrolink train service purchased in Los Angeles Newspaper Group publications (San Bernardino Sun, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin)
- Website
  - Metrolink posted a rotating banner ad on home page
  - Metrolink dedicated splash page promoting special train service and ticket sales
  - Speedway created a dedicated Metrolink landing page on Auto Club Speedway website
  - Speedway posted a Metrolink homepage feature on the Auto Club Speedway website
  - Speedway sales actively promoted Metrolink service as add-on in ticket purchase flow to promote race/train ticket packaging
- Newsletters (print and e-version)
  - Metrolink Matters (bi-monthly onboard trains and electronic version) 25,000 copies
  - Metrolink Offers and Promotions e-blast (70,000 subscribers)
  - Auto Club Speedway monthly e-newsletter (80,000 subscribers)

- Auto Club Speedway to promote Metrolink train service via promotional emails (80,000 subscribers)
- Press release – joint release by Metrolink and Auto Club Speedway
- Social media outreach
  - Twitter
  - Facebook
  - Instagram
- Radio campaign:
  - Auto Club Speedway created Metrolink radio tags
- Outdoor campaign:
  - Auto Club Speedway electronic marquee sign included Metrolink train service bulletin (located on Interstate 10)
- Event Marketing:
  - Auto Club Speedway Day at Union Station
- Auto Club Speedway produced flyers and ticket brochures featuring Metrolink information at a variety of event activations
- Military campaign:
  - Auto Club Speedway promoted Metrolink special train service to 20 bases surrounding Southern California
- College campaign: Auto Club Speedway added Metrolink special train service social messaging to the on-campus collateral promoting the discounted Auto Club Speedway NASCAR tickets offered at over 30 area campuses

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

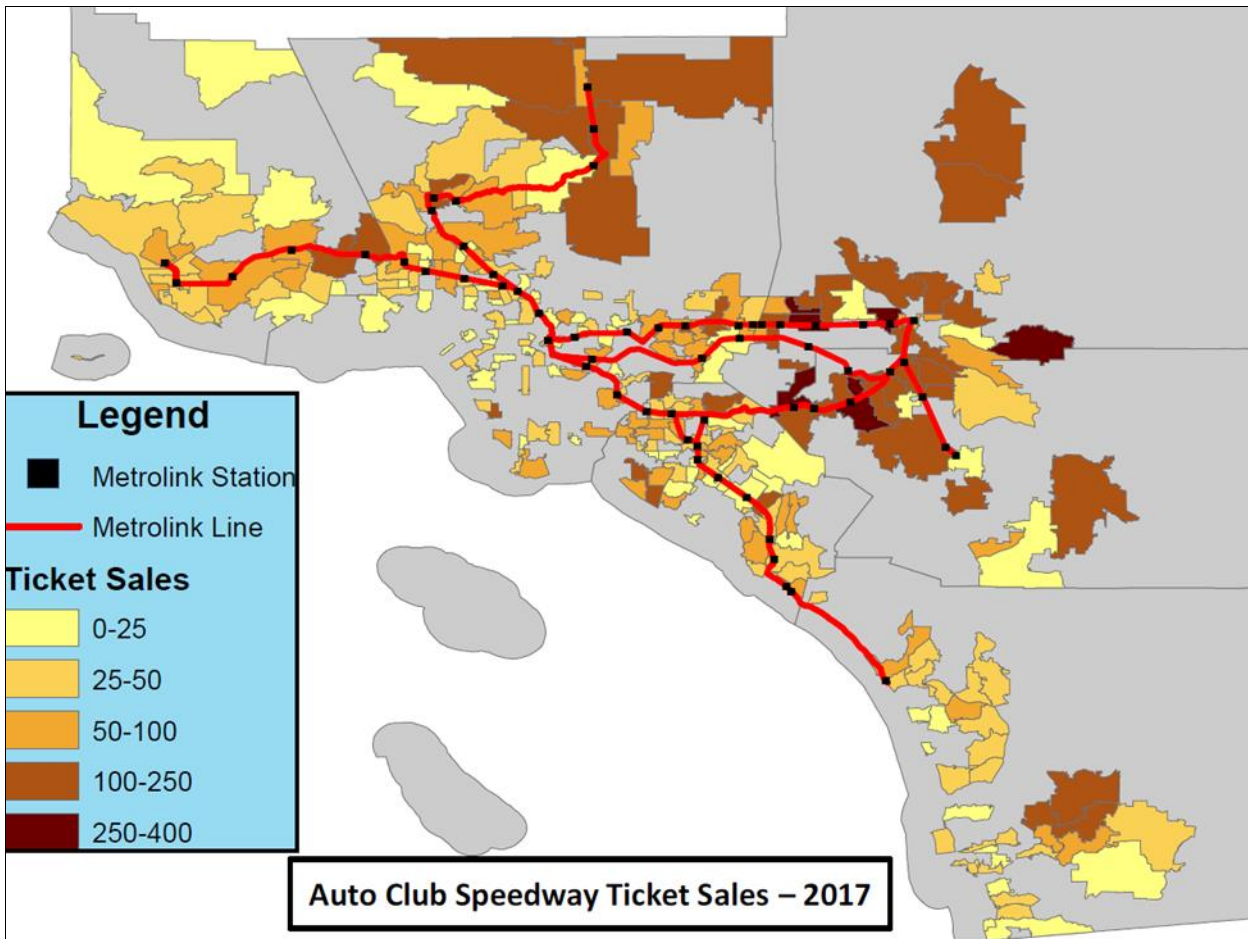
The cooperative efforts between the Auto Club Speedway and Metrolink demonstrates the best of the public-private partnership. Our committed goal is to improve the customer experience, both on the train and at the track, reduce automobile trips and local traffic congestion through increased train ticket sales, and improve overall air quality by emissions reduction.

Ridership was down 4.8% from last year or 129 less fans taking the train to the Auto Club 400 NASCAR race. With ticket sales suspended for nearly three weeks pending the outcome of the Tier 4 locomotive substitution request by Metrolink, overall ridership was only down 4.7% from the previous year.

Route	2016	2017*	%
Oxnard	994	1,020	2.6%

Oceanside	883	876	(.79)%
Lancaster	773	670	(13.3%)
Total Ridership	2695	2566	(4.8%)

Below is the geo-map showing the 2017 Auto Club Speedway ticket sales by zip codes for the special train service. The map covers the 6-county Metrolink service area along our 3 routes to the Auto Club Speedway race. Metrolink provides a regional service to a major event center reducing traffic congestion along the local streets and along the 1-10, I-15 and I-201 freeway arterials. Using this data, we can geo-target NASCAR fans through social media outlets to promote the special train service.



The relationship between the Auto Club Speedway and Metrolink demonstrates the best of the public-private partnership. Each year our goal is to improve the customer experience, both on the train and at the track, reduce automobile trips and local traffic congestion through increased train ticket sales, and improve overall air quality by emissions reduction

The Auto Club Speedway and Metrolink are committed to promoting the use of alternative transportation instead of driving to major sporting events to improve overall air quality in the region. Special train service to these events funded by the MSRC provides the public the opportunity to select a more responsible transit choice and improve air quality within their community.

Offering the public an alternative transit option to attend a major destination event achieves the overall goal of the MSRC to reduce air emission, eliminate unnecessary automobile trips and to alleviate traffic congestion surrounding the venue on the local and freeway arterials. Changing driver behavior for a national NASCAR event is a positive accomplishment for the MSRC, Auto Club Speedway and Metrolink.

Metrolink and the Auto Club Speedway express our appreciation to the MSRC for approval of our Major Event Center Transportation Program application using Tier 2 locomotives for another year. It is completely understood that any future MSRC grant award must use Tier 4 locomotives for consideration. Metrolink's Tier 4 locomotives are anticipated to start revenue service in mid-October or early November 2017.



## ATTACHMENTS

### Metrolink collateral materials:

- a. Rotating web banner on home page (English)
- b. Metrolink Matters Newsletter – February/March 2014
- c. Destination & Events page
- d. Tower ad at Union Station
- e. Twitter posts
- f. Facebook contest
- g. Metrolink Media advisory

### Auto Club Speedway collateral materials:

- a. Web banner used for digital marketing – web banner, web ads
- b. Military web banner
- c. I-10 billboard
- d. FanFest online newsletter
- e. Ad in San Bernardino Sun and Los Angeles Newspaper Group (LANG)
- f. Radio tag
- g. Press release

## METROLINK OUTREACH MATERIALS

### a. Metrolink Rotating Web Banner



### b. Metrolink Matters newsletter – February/March 2017

#### RIDE METROLINK FOR FREE TO THE AUTO CLUB 400

If you're headed to Fontana for the 'Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Auto Club 400 and Auto Club Speedway's 20th Reunion festivities on March



26, avoid the traffic and enjoy a stress-free ride with friends and family on a special Metrolink train. A limited number of free

round-trips will be offered to fans thanks to Clean Transportation Funding from the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee.

The special train service will be offered from Oceanside, Oxnard and Lancaster with multiple station stops to the Speedway station. The three trains will arrive at the Speedway before 10 a.m., leaving fans plenty of time to take part in festivities surrounding 20 years of racing at Auto Club Speedway. Auto Club Speedway will provide free tram service from the train station to the track, before and after the race. All three special trains will depart one hour after the checkered flag. For additional details on the train schedules and Auto Club 400 ticket information, please visit [metrolinktrains.com/race](http://metrolinktrains.com/race).

c. Metrolink Destination & Events page

### Ride Metrolink to the Race for FREE



Race fans can take Metrolink for free to the Auto Club Speedway's Auto Club 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race on March 26, 2017. The free train ride will be offered to a limited number of race fans with the support of Clean Transportation Funding from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC). There will be three special trains offering service to the race from Oceanside, Oxnard and Lancaster with limited stops to the Speedway. A free shuttle will be provided by Auto Club Speedway from the Metrolink train drop off site to the track.

d. Tower ad at Union Station





e. Metrolink Twitter post

## PROMOTION: Auto Club Speedway 2017

Total Reach (impressions): 7,284

 **Metrolink** ✓  
Published by Yena Jeon [?] · March 20 · @  
Good morning! Your Monday train status updates will be posted here until 11:30 p.m.  
Don't miss this year's exciting Auto Club 400 race at the Auto Club Speedway. They're giving away FREE Metrolink rides with the purchase of a race ticket (while seats last)! More info & details: <http://ow.ly/a19y309enBM>



5,605 people reached

Boost Post

Like Comment Share



Angela Lorie Ortiz, Delfina Gomez and 61 others

Top Comments

### Tweet Sample:

Vroom! Ride Metrolink for FREE to the #AutoClub400 w/ purchase of #Nascar race ticket. [ow.ly/YD9UV](http://ow.ly/YD9UV) @ACSupdates

## Top Tweet Mention in February 2017

RT if you want to ride the free @Metrolink service to @NASCAR Auto Club 400! Race fans must sign up in advance: [bit.ly/2kXye9t](http://bit.ly/2kXye9t)  
pic.twitter.com/LZnT64XvbE



4:2 11 13

[View Tweet](#)

### f. Facebook contest

Reached over 9,817 people and had 173 comments for entries.

<https://www.facebook.com/Metrolink/photos/a.319766167933.149107.101059842933/10154401668047934/?type=3>

facebook [Sign Up](#)   [Log In](#)  
[Forgot account?](#)

**Metrolink** is with William Dullen and 2 others.  
March 9 · 🌐

Contest Alert: enter our Auto Club Speedway contest for a chance to win a pair of FREE Auto Club 400 NASCAR tickets and Metrolink train tickets to the event on March 26.

To enter: Simply post a comment and tag the person you would like to take with you to the race and why.

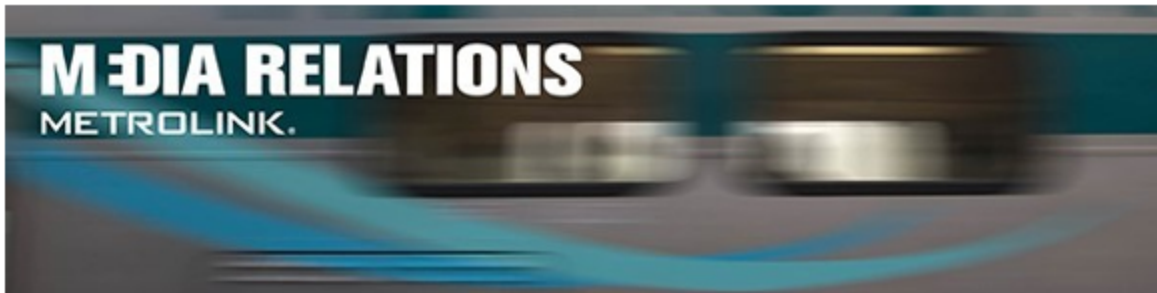
Contest Ends: March 12, 2017 at Midnight PST  
Full contest rules: <http://metrolinktrains.com/contest/>



80 Likes 172 Comments 34 Shares

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g. Metrolink Media Advisory



**MEDIA ADVISORY: March 6, 2017**

**Auto Club Speedway Day at Los Angeles Union Station**

*Public and media invited to Union Station on March 9 for free giveaways and tickets leading up to the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Auto Club 400 race on March 26.*

**LOS ANGELES** – Metrolink will celebrate Auto Club Speedway Day at Los Angeles Union Station Thursday from 6 a.m. until 9 a.m. The activity will highlight Metrolink's service to the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Auto Club 400 race on March 26.

Attendees of Thursday's event will be able to:

- Spin a prize wheel for Metrolink tickets and rewards and Auto Club Speedway prizes.
- Enter to win tickets to the Auto Club 400 at Auto Club Speedway.
- Receive coupons and information about the Metrolink service and special deals for the Auto Club 400 weekend.

With the purchase of a ticket to the Auto Club 400, race fans also have the option for free round-trip train service through support from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). A limited number of seats are available. After the limited number of free tickets are depleted, race fans will be able to purchase discounted \$19 round trip train tickets. Last year, train tickets sold out.

**WHAT:** Auto Club Speedway Day at Los Angeles Union Station

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 9 from 6 a.m. until 9 a.m.

**WHERE:** East Portal of Union Station near the Patsaouras Transit Plaza with access from Vignes Street.

**WHY:** To make the community aware of public transportation to the Auto Club 400.

For more information about Metrolink's service to the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Auto Club 400 race on March 26 please go to [www.metrolinktrains.com/race](http://www.metrolinktrains.com/race).

**CONTACT:**

Scott Johnson, Metrolink at [johnsons@scrra.net](mailto:johnsons@scrra.net) or (213) 452-0205; or David Talley, Auto Club Speedway at [dtalley@autoclubspeedway.com](mailto:dtalley@autoclubspeedway.com) or (909) 429-5205.

# AUTO CLUB SPEEDWAY MARKETING OUTREACH

a. Web banner used for digital marketing



b. Military web banner



c. I-10 billboard



d. FanFest online newsletter



e. Ad in San Bernardino Sun and Los Angeles Newspaper Group (LANG)



f. Radio tag



[https://youtu.be/6KonVil3i\\_g](https://youtu.be/6KonVil3i_g)

g. Press release



Contact: ACS Communications (909) 429.5205 • (909) 429.5206

## FREE METROLINK TO NASCAR AUTO CLUB 400!

FONTANA, Calif. (Feb. XX, 2017)—Metrolink, start your engines! Once again, Auto Club Speedway and Metrolink have teamed up to provide race fans with free round-trip tickets to watch the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Auto Club 400 race on March 26, 2017 and take part in the Speedway's 20th Anniversary Reunion festivities at Auto Club Speedway in Fontana.

Free round-trip train rides are available to fans purchasing Auto Club 400 race tickets with the support of Clean Transportation Funding from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) for a limited number of seats. After the limited number of free tickets are depleted, race fans will be able to purchase discounted \$19 round-trip train tickets.

To get a free round-trip ticket, race fans must sign up in advance at [www.autoclubspeedway.com/metrolink](http://www.autoclubspeedway.com/metrolink)

Metrolink will once again operate three trains originating from Oxnard, Lancaster and Oceanside with limited stops in-between for faster service. The trains will arrive at Auto Club Speedway before 10 a.m., leaving fans plenty of time to take part in Auto Club Speedway's 20th Anniversary Reunion activities leading up to the NASCAR Auto Club 400 race starting at 12:30 p.m. Train routes and stops include:

Section Break (Continuous)

### Route 1: Oxnard to ACS

Oxnard  
Moorpark  
Chatsworth  
Van Nuys  
Covina  
Montclair  
Rancho Cucamonga  
Auto Club Speedway

### Route 2: Lancaster to ACS

Lancaster  
Santa Clarita  
Sylmar/San Fernando  
Downtown Burbank  
L.A. Union Station  
Auto Club Speedway

### Route 3: Oceanside to ACS

Oceanside  
San Clemente  
Irvine  
Orange  
Riverside-La Sierra  
San Bernardino  
Auto Club Speedway

Section Break (Continuous)

Metrolink's Speedway trains stop at a specially constructed station just off the back straight away at the race track. From there, passengers will board a free tram that takes them to the entrance gates. Trains depart Auto Club Speedway one hour after the end of the race, or checkered flag.

Metrolink riders can bring food and non-alcoholic beverages on board the train. Items are not permitted to be stored at the Speedway train station; however fans may utilize lightweight backpacks and soft-side bags/coolers, no larger than 6x6x12 inches, that may contain race weekend essentials. For a complete list of approved carry-in items, please visit [www.autoclubspeedway.com](http://www.autoclubspeedway.com).

The Auto-Club-Speedway-Metrolink-Train-Service is a joint demonstration project made possible in part by Clean Transportation Funding from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC). The MSRC's mission is to fund projects that reduce air pollution to meet the region's clean air goals. Over its 22-year history, the MSRC has assisted organizations throughout the Southland in removing as much as 8,000 tons of harmful pollutants from the air through innovative programs designed to reduce air pollution from mobile sources.

The primary focus of the MSRC is to reduce air pollution from mobile sources. The partnership between the MSRC, Metrolink and the Auto-Club-400 does exactly that. This effort helps advance the MSRC's mission to reduce harmful emissions from mobile sources and provides a stress-free option for race fans to get to the California freeway by avoiding traffic delays.

The Metrolink trains to Auto-Club-Speedway are special trains; regular Metrolink tickets and passes are not valid. The Auto-Club-Speedway train tickets are distributed only by Auto-Club-Speedway and are mailed out prior to the race. To purchase race and train tickets or for information on the Auto-Club-Speedway train schedule, call Auto-Club-Speedway at (800)-944-RACE (7223), log on to [www.autoclubspeedway.com/metrolink](http://www.autoclubspeedway.com/metrolink) or visit the Auto-Club-Speedway Ticket Office.

###

**Auto-Club-Speedway-Contact:**

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Director of Communications  
(909)-429-5205  
[dtalley@autoclubspeedway.com](mailto:dtalley@autoclubspeedway.com)

**Metrolink-Contact:**

Scott Johnson  
Assistant Public Affairs Officer  
(213)-452-0205

**About Auto-Club-Speedway:**

Located 50 miles east of Los Angeles in Fontana, Auto-Club-Speedway is California's premier motorsports facility, hosting over 320 days of track activity each year including the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Auto-Club-400 weekend, March 24-26, 2017. The two-mile D-shaped oval is one of the fastest tracks on the circuit. The Speedway is also home to numerous movies, television and commercial productions, photo shoots, new car testing, club racing and a variety of racing schools. For more information on events at Auto-Club-Speedway call 1-800-944-RACE (7223) or visit [www.autoclubspeedway.com](http://www.autoclubspeedway.com).

**About Metrolink:** Metrolink is Southern California's regional commuter rail service in its 21st year of operation. The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), a joint powers authority made up of an 11-member board representing the transportation commissions of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties, governs the service. Metrolink operates over seven routes through a six-county, 512-route-mile network. Metrolink is the third largest commuter rail agency in the United States based on directional route miles and the eighth largest based on annual ridership.



March 26, 2017 – Arrival of passengers at the Auto Club Speedway platform