

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Metrolink Service Marks 25 Years in Riverside County

It's been 25 years since Metrolink trains began rolling in Riverside County, and the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) is marking this milestone with a series of activities, including a "Metrolink Memories" contest.

While Metrolink began operations in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties in October 1992, service began in Riverside County on June 14, 1993 with four round-trip trains on the new Riverside Line between Riverside and Los Angeles.

The rail service provided a new transportation option for commuters and recreational travelers, offering a convenient, traffic-free way to travel across southern California.

Service next expanded to the Inland Empire-Orange County Line in October 1995, and then the 91 Line in May 2002. In June 2016, the 91 Line was extended 24 miles to Perris, creating the 91/Perris Valley Line to serve travelers from Perris and other southwestern Riverside County communities.

Throughout the years, Metrolink service has continued to grow and now serves as the nation's third largest commuter rail system, with seven routes, 62 stations, and 534 route-miles across its system. An average of 39,000 passengers ride Metrolink each weekday, with 60 percent of these riders crossing county lines.

RCTC owns and operates nine stations in Riverside County, including three in Riverside, two in Perris, two in Corona, one in Jurupa Valley, and one in Moreno Valley.

During the week of June 11, RCTC will be hosting booths at selected stations to distribute information and giveaways. Riders also are invited to enter RCTC's "Metrolink Memories" contest, in recognition of the lasting friendships, romantic relationships, family trips and other special events that have been sparked by riding Metrolink.

To enter for a chance to win monthly passes and other items, go to <u>rctc.org/memories</u> and complete the online form. Photos or video clips also may be uploaded to support contest entries, which are due July 14, 2018. Top entries will be shared via RCTC's website and social media.

RCTC and other transportation agencies comprise the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, a joint powers authority that operates Metrolink trains across the counties of Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura.

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