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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SunLine Transit Agency Encourages Coachella Valley to ‘Dump the Pump’ Tomorrow, June 16th**

**(Thousand Palms, CA)** SunLine Transit Agency – in support of a national initiative sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) – encourages Coachella Valley residents and visitors to ‘dump the pump’ tomorrow, June 16, 2016.

“The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual ‘Dump the Pump Day’ is the perfect time to give your gas gauge a rest by giving bus rides a try,” said Lauren Skiver, CEO/General Manager of SunLine Transit Agency. “In fact, SunLine recently launched its SunBus Tracker app – making public transportation easier than ever. Local riders can track their next bus using GPS, receive alerts and route their trips using the app.”

According to APTA’s June Transit Savings Report, a two-person household can save, on average, \$9,474 a year by downsizing to one car. Public transportation also provides jobs which help the economy. Additionally, it offers job access to millions of Americans – since nearly 60 percent of trips taken on public transit are work commutes.

Public transportation use reduces our nation’s dependence on foreign oil by 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline a year, and it also saves 37 million metric tons of carbon emissions annually.

To download SunLine’s SunBus Tracker app, go to the App Store on your mobile device and download **MyStop** or, go to [sunline.org](http://sunline.org).

For more information, contact Norma Stevens at (760) 343-3456.

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*SunLine Transit Agency is a joint powers authority formed in 1977 to operate the Coachella Valley’s public transportation system. SunLine offers fixed route bus service and curb-to-curb paratransit for the mobility impaired. Its fixed route and paratransit vehicles travel more than 4 million miles per year, covering over 619 bus stops located throughout a 1,120 mile-service area, carrying approximately 4.82 million riders. SunLine Services Group regulates three taxi franchises who provide taxi services throughout the Valley. SunFuels alternative fueling station offers compressed natural gas and hydrogen for SunLine and the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To learn more, please visit [sunline.org](http://sunline.org).*