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## **Space Coast Area Transit Offers First Month Free to First 2016 Vanpool, Plus Free Bus Ride on January 14**

*Brevard County leaders start the New Year by resolving to support public transit*

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**Brevard County, FL** – Space Coast Area Transit’s Vanpool Leasing Program already has 40 commuter vanpools on the road. The Brevard County transit agency plans to increase that number with a special campaign called “Resolve to reThink Your Commute.” The agency is offering the first month free to the first vanpool to start in 2016, subject to a 90-day contract. The offer has a \$550 value, which is being covered by vRide, the agency’s vanpool management team.

For more than 25 years, Space Coast Area Transit and vRide have offered a variety of vans through the Vanpool Leasing Program. Groups of commuters can lease the vans for \$550 a month, which includes insurance and maintenance. The commuters drive the van, designing a route and schedule that works for them. The monthly fee, cost of gas and tolls are typically split evenly amongst the drivers and riders. The program is ideal for commuters who travel at least 25 miles each way for work.

The potential cost savings is significant: for a Palm Bay-to-Titusville daily commute (50 miles each way), vanpooling would mean the difference between paying \$157 a month for gas for your personal vehicle or \$38 a month for shared gas in the vanpool. Even when adding the per-person monthly lease fee, commuters save money vanpooling to work instead of driving their personal vehicle to work.

In addition to the 40 commuter vanpools Brevard County residents use to get to work, there are an additional 43 “agency” vans on the road, operated by human services agencies. Space Coast Area Transit also operates 19 fixed-routes, connecting everywhere from Mims to Palm Bay. On Resolve to reThink Your Commute Day, Thursday, January 14, 2016, customers can ride for free by printing a complimentary round-trip bus ticket from [www.RideSCAT.com](http://www.RideSCAT.com). Additionally, transportation officials and community leaders will be attending a Transit Summit entitled “The Business of Transit.”

Resolve to reThink Your Commute Day is sponsored by reThink, FDOT’s Commuter Assistance Program; Space Coast Area Transit; Brevard County; FLORIDA TODAY; and Clear Channel Outdoor. For more information about the vanpool program or the free-ride bus ticket, call 866-610-RIDE (7433) or visit [www.RideSCAT.com](http://www.RideSCAT.com).

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