

'Dump the Pump' with free TriCounty Link rides Thursday

With people still struggling economically, and concerned about saving energy and reducing our dependence on foreign oil, TriCounty Link is partner-

ing with the Berkeley, Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCD-COG) and Trident Rideshare as well as other public transportation systems nationwide to participate in the Fifth Annual National Dump the Pump Day, Thursday, June 17, 2010.

Mayors throughout the tri-county region have signed letters in support of a proclamation issued by the TriCounty Link board of directors commemorating the event.

Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. also issued a proclamation for the City of Charleston. Signed by Board Chairman Reverend Robert Reid, the TriCounty Link Board proclamation recognizes the part that public transportation plays in helping Lowcountry residents save money, reduce congestion and enhance economic opportunities in the region.

In recognition of the importance of the event, public officials from every corner of the Lowcountry will leave their cars at home and ride public transportation on Thursday.

In addition to offering free rides on all fixed routes, TriCounty Link customers can register to win one of two 26" Huffly bicycles.

In addition, at some point during the day, a local radio personality will ride a mystery route, providing live reports and counting customers as they board. The 99th customer will win a

pair of tickets to Funk Fest, a popular "old skool" concert featuring hits from the 70's 80's, 90's and present" to be held Saturday, June 19 at the Family Circle Stadium on Daniel Island.

Sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), the 2010 National Dump the Pump Day is a day that encourages people to ride public transportation and save money instead of driving a car. Started in June 2006 when gas prices were \$3 per gallon, this national day emphasizes that public transportation is a great travel option that also helps people save money.

According to Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester Council of Governments Director Ron Mitchum, "Public transportation makes an important contribution to the economic health and quality of life in our region by getting people to and from work and reducing congestion. The Council of Governments continues to be very involved in plans to create an efficient and effective transportation network throughout the three county area and we are very pleased to partner with TriCounty Link as part of this nationwide event."

To find out more about the BCD-COG and Trident Rideshare go to www.bcd-cog.com To find out more about the region's Dump the Pump activities call 843-899-4096 or go to www.ridetricountylink.com.