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The

RTAReader

September 2009

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A newsletter of developments, events and announcements from the Riverside Transit Agency.

Board Awards Contract for Construction of Corona Transit Center

Plans to build a transit center in Corona took a step forward thanks to a Board decision to award a \$4.5 million construction bid to San Dimas-based Seawest Enterprises. The \$7 million project will include eight bus bays, a pedestrian plaza and a bridge to the North Main Corona Metrolink Station. Funding for the project will come from federal, local and Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) sources. Construction is expected to begin by January.

New Dial-A-Ride Policies Adopted

In an effort to manage rising costs and increasing ridership, RTA Board Members approved changes to Dial-A-Ride service policies that are scheduled to take effect January 1, 2010. The changes affect seniors and disabled customers who use the curb-to-curb advanced reservation service. The changes include increasing the eligible age from 60 to 65, reducing the reservation window from seven days to three days, enforcing a customer's eligibility based on their disability, limiting the pick-up area to locations within three-quarters of a mile of regular bus routes and increasing the maximum trip cost from \$6 to \$9 based on the number of bus routes they would otherwise use. The approved changes followed a public comment period in August and an independent study that found that if no change is made to RTA's existing Dial-A-Ride policies and level of service, operating expenses would more than double by Fiscal Year 2013.

Join the Movement, Join Transportation NOW

Are you interested in becoming an advocate for public transportation? If so, you are invited to attend the next meeting for Transportation NOW, a grassroots group dedicated to promoting and expanding public transit alternatives in western Riverside County. Monthly meetings are held in Riverside, Moreno Valley, Corona and Beaumont. Go to www.riversidetransit.com for details.

Partnerships Allow Students to Ride RTA for Free

Students returning to campus this month are finding it easier to get around. That's because RTA has either extended or renewed partnerships with Riverside Community College, UC Riverside, California Baptist University and La Sierra University that allow students to ride any fixed-route bus for free by using their student ID card. The programs are paid for by the colleges and other sources.

Stay Informed with Twitter and eAlerts

Get up-to-the-minute RTA news and information through Twitter at twitter.com/RTABus. Or sign up to receive eAlerts on your cell phone or e-mail at www.RiversideTransit.com.

Take a Ride on the Temecula Trolley

The free Temecula Trolley is now rolling around Temecula with stops in the Harveston development, Promenade Mall, Old Town, and dozens of other destinations. The Route 55 Green Line provides weekday service from Harveston to the Promenade mall and surrounding areas. The Route 57 Red Line runs weekdays and weekends between the Promenade Mall and Old Town. The service is paid for by the City of Temecula.