



1825 Third St.

Riverside CA 92507

Phone: 951.565.5000

Web: www.RiversideTransit.com

The

RTAReader

March 2010

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Comerchero
Chairman
City of Temecula

Robert Buster
First Vice Chair
County of Riverside
District 1

Doug McAllister
Second Vice Chair
City of Murrieta

John F. Tavaglione
County of Riverside
District 2

Jeff Stone
County of Riverside
District 3

Marion Ashley
County of Riverside
District 5

Don Robinson
City of Banning

Jeff Fox
City of Beaumont

Ella Zanowic
City of Calimesa

Barry Talbot
City of Canyon Lake

Karen Spiegel
City of Corona

Eric McBride
City of Hemet

Daryl Hickman
City of Lake Elsinore

Wallace Edgerton
City of Menifee

Bonnie Flickinger
City of Moreno Valley

Harvey Sullivan
City of Norco

Joanne Evans
City of Perris

Andy Melendrez
City of Riverside

Steve Di Memmo
City of San Jacinto

Sheryl Ade
City of Wildomar

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

February Ridership Hits a Record

Despite the rainy weather, service reductions and fare increases, RTA posted its highest ridership of any February with 635,989 boardings, a 1.3 percent increase compared to the same month a year ago. February boardings were the second-highest ever for directly operated routes and the highest ever for contracted routes. CommuterLink routes posted gains 12 percent higher than last year.

Board Approves Service Changes

In response to a challenging economic climate and a need to control operating costs, RTA Board members approved the removal of unproductive trips on 14 routes, minimized service duplications, discontinued the Temecula Trolley Red Line and eliminated service on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day. The decision follows a month-long public hearing period that solicited community feedback on the changes. The bulk of the changes will take effect on May 9 with the exception of the Temecula Trolley and Route 25. The trolley will be discontinued on April 1 and changes to Route 25 are expected to take effect in September after RTA concludes talks with Omnitrans regarding service in the City of Grand Terrace, which would be affected by the approved changes. Details of the changes are available in brochures aboard buses and at RiversideTransit.com.

Grant Submissions OK'd for New Buses, Security Systems

Board members ratified two Prop. 1B state grant applications: the first for the purchase of 53 buses, the second for a security system at the Corona and Temecula transit centers and for security lighting at RTA's Hemet and Riverside maintenance facilities. In a similar vote, the Board approved a federal grant application to help purchase seven replacement buses. The compressed natural gas powered, 40-foot buses would replace vehicles in the fleet that are nearing the end of their useful lives.

New T-NOW Chapter Established in Southwest County

Transportation NOW, a grassroots group dedicated to advancing public transportation in Riverside County, just got bigger. Thanks to the recent opening of a new chapter in Southwest County, it's easier than ever to get involved in an issue that affects everyone living in this region. The new group brings to five the total number of Transportation NOW chapters. Other chapters are in Corona/Norco/District 2, Moreno Valley/Perris, Riverside and the San Geronio Pass. The Southwest chapter, which is open to the public, meets at noon the fourth Wednesday of the month at Murrieta City Hall, 24601 Jefferson Avenue. For more details on Transportation NOW, go to RiversideTransit.com.