

The Dispatch

“Provide Safe and Reliable Transportation by Promoting Improved Coordination and Consolidation of Available Resources”

Fresno EOC Transit News

Issue 7, July 2022

A DRIVING FORCE FOR MEETING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS AND REDUCING THE COST OF TRAVEL

Fresno EOC Transit Systems is excited to partner once again with social service providers in Fresno County to meet the transportation needs of seniors, people with special needs, and people with a low income. Transit Systems will continue operating as a sub-grantee for two Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies (CTSAs) in Fresno County.

Fresno EOC is the leading social service transportation for the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) and has been providing social service transportation since 1982. CTSAs was created under state law in 1979, to improve the quality of transportation services for low-mobility groups in each county. They are designed to encourage transportation providers to consolidate services and save money.

Last month, the Fresno Council of Governments approved its budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, allocating more than \$3 million in local transportation funds to Fresno County CTSAs. The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) is the CTSA for rural Fresno County and can distribute up to \$883,100 in local transportation funds in the next fiscal year. Fresno Area Express (FAX), the City of Fresno’s public transportation operator, is the CTSA for the Fresno Metropolitan area and will manage \$2,171,900 during the next fiscal year. Both CTSAs are allocating a portion of those funds to Fresno EOC Transit Systems.

Transit Systems will award qualifying social service providers 45% of their operating costs for transportation services generated for their clients.

Fresno County Social Service providers interested in being a part of this partnership can contact Transit Services at (800) 325-7433. We look forward to assisting with your growing transportation needs.

DEDICATED DRIVERS DEVOTED TO PASSENGERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Fresno EOC Transit Systems is a 24-hour operation, managing the transportation needs of clients across the Central Valley. Last year, drivers covered more than 1,300,000 miles and the team strives to give clients the best service possible. Eight of its 42 drivers are dedicated to providing clients who have special needs with transportation that is safe and reliable on a daily basis. They have been trained to guide passengers who are vision-impaired, hearing impaired, or must use a wheelchair. The safety record of these eight drivers is impeccable and sets the standard for others to follow. Between them, they have a total of 155 years of dedicated service. Kathy Leon stands out above the rest as she has been with Transit Systems for 30 years. Transit is proud to have such caring and devoted employees.

SPOTLIGHT ON PARTNERSHIP

Fresno EOC Transit Systems just began turning wrenches starting June 1, 2022 for our long-time partner, The Arc of Fresno and Madera Counties. After providing transportation services to clients with developmental disabilities for The Arc over 20 plus years, Transit Systems is now under contract to provide vehicle maintenance for the non-profits 70+ ADA compliant vehicles. Under this new contract, Transit Systems will provide parts at cost and mechanic services at a reduced hourly rate. “This partnership will enable Transit Systems to repair vehicles in a timely manner, with safety as a standard to ensure our passengers are provided the best service possible,” stated Lori Ramirez, Executive Director of The Arc. “Fresno EOC has made it an easy transition and welcomed The Arc of Fresno and Madera Counties with open arms.”

Ever wonder how a business can spread its message or show off its product through multiple neighborhoods in just a few hours? It's easy. Fresno EOC Transit Systems is creating rolling billboards. Transit Systems is now in the business of wrapping buses, whether it is just one side of the bus or a full wrap, which is three sides. Let us "Drive Your Message Forward." Give us a call today at 800-235-7433. To view our competitive prices click [here](#).

NEW HIRES AT FRESNO EOC TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Transit Systems provides services including driving children to school, bus service in Madera County, transporting those with special needs, and is now in the business of wrapping buses with custom ads. The massive program of Fresno EOC has more than 150 vehicles in its fleet. Four new team members have just been hired to help to ensure the transportation needs of clients are met.

Jose Zuniga will join the Finance team as an Accountant, supporting Transit Systems and Food Services. Jose will focus on the meal delivery portion of the Transit Systems operation.

Cristiano Montellano will come on board as the Automotive Service Administrator for The Arc Maintenance Project at Transit Systems.

Roman Martinez will bring his creative talents to the team as a Vehicle Detailer for The Arc maintenance project. This will ensure vehicles are cleaned and ready for service.

Chris Fuentes will join the team as a Mechanic for The Arc maintenance project. His main vehicles are vans and shuttle buses.

Our new staff members will work in our newly renovated on-site garage in the Transit compound and say they are pleased to be supporting the local community. We are thrilled to welcome this talented group of people to our valued team.

For more information visit our job board or call (559) 486-658

FRESNO EOC DRIVERS ARE TESTED AND TRUSTED

Fresno EOC Transit Systems is continuing to meet all safety procedures. Our safety incentive program is going strong and reminding drivers the importance of safety. Our drivers have a clean record, with no at-fault accidents this year. All drivers have passed and are current with First Aid training. Drivers who had CHP renewal testing have all passed with a refresh of skills needed to drive our Transit vehicles. We are proud of the safety and expertise of Transit Systems drivers.

NEW FRESNO EOC SHUTTLE SERVICE TO HELP SENIORS AND VETERANS

If you visit the Three Palms Mobile Home & RV Park in Fresno, you will notice it is surrounded by freeways and construction sites. While the community is bordered by Golden State Boulevard and Highway 99, many of the residents are disabled, can no longer drive, or do not own a car. On top of that, conditions do not support public transportation services.

Residents like Stephen Large have been advocating for years, for safe and reliable transportation in and out of the mobile home park. At a recent news conference, he said he is grateful for a new shuttle service operated by Fresno EOC Transit Systems. "This is a wonderful day for Three Palms Mobile Home Park. It has been about three years in the making." Stephen says prior to the launch of the new shuttle service, some residents would "illegally cross over the (railroad) tracks and cut through a cyclone fence" to get to a nearby shopping center.

Fresno EOC Transit Systems rolled out the shuttle service on Friday, July 1, from the mobile home park as well as two other sites, including the Veterans Home of California and the Fresno County island of West Park. The service is free to residents, runs six days a week, and is possible through a partnership with the City of Fresno.

Fresno EOC Transit Systems has been working with residents in all three communities to learn about their needs. Program Director Thomas Dulin said, "We have been coming out here for months talking to residents and hearing about their challenges. For example, we learned the nearest grocery store is about a mile away, which can be tough for someone who is a little older or disabled and walking with bags of food. We are excited to see this project come to fruition and help community members access basic services, medical services, and other amenities."

The shuttle will connect residents to destinations such as Vallarta Supermarket at Clinton and Weber, Walmart on Shaw and Brawley, The Marketplace at El Paseo, Courthouse Park Transit Center, FoodMaxx, Fashion Fair Mall, and Manchester Transit Center.

If you would like to learn more about Fresno EOC Transit Systems new shuttle service, [click here](#) or call (800) 325-7433.

Watch more about this story on ABC30, KSEE24, and FOX26.

ABOUT FRESNO EOC TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Transit Systems is a 24-hour operation managing the transportation needs of clients across the Central Valley. During the pandemic, the program continues to operate a fleet of more than 30 school buses, paratransit vehicles, vans, and cars.

Transit Systems responds to more than 5,000 calls each month and provides services including driving children to school, bus service in Madera County, transporting those with special needs, and is now in the business of wrapping buses with custom ads. To find out how your business can advertise on Fresno EOC transit vehicles, call 559-486-6587.

For media inquiries, please contact Claudia.solis@fresnoeoc.org

Message From Fresno EOC Transit Systems Director, Thomas Dulin



Well, summer has officially hit the Central Valley with the temperatures rising and the heat creeping into the unhealthy red zones. Transit Systems will be keeping busy in the next few months, transporting clients and keeping them cool in our air-conditioned vehicles as they head to work, school, medical appointments, shopping trips, and more. Also during the summer months, we are proud to provide drivers for Fresno EOC's Food Service Food Express Buses to deliver meals to children throughout Fresno County, ensuring that no child under age 18, goes hungry when school is not in session. We have added new contracts with PG&E and The Arc of Fresno/Madera counties to our long list of partners around Fresno County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work with each one of them to be able to provide services near and far.

As I reflect on the partnerships old and new, as well as our connections with loyal clients, I am struck by gratitude and excitement. I am eager to see how much we can accomplish together in the coming months. I am thankful for your support and your trust in Fresno EOC Transit Systems to provide first-class transportation every single day.

Thomas Dulin