

January 2021



Las Cruces Train Depot



Moving Forward – Community Sessions

South Central Regional Transit District (SCRTD) is currently preparing a 10-year plan to better provide transit services to Dona Ana, Otero, and Sierra Counties as well as transit services to El Paso, Texas. The transit district, in concert with the state of New Mexico, have held four virtual public meetings to gain insight from the residents of southern New Mexico, and to increase awareness of our transportation survey on how to improve the current transportation system for our 10-year plan. The public meetings focused on Las Cruces, Anthony and Chapparal, and Hatch, NM. Participants in the public meetings posed questions to a panel consisting of David Armijo, and Kirk Scott, as well as Sara Vasquez who provided Spanish Translations for the meetings. One of the questions posed at each public meeting was whether transportation services to the Santa Teresa Industrial Park and surrounding area would be increased to help people access the jobs and economic opportunities provided by companies in the industrial park. The response by the panel was that they are interested in providing transit services, and that a smaller form of transit, such as a small bus, or a type of carpool service, would likely be ideal for this area. SCRTD would like more input from the community regarding the following questions:

- Where should SCRTD provide future services?
- What days of the week should buses run and what times?
- What other passenger service providers should SCRTD connect with and where?
- What vehicles and facilities are needed? How can these be paid for?
- What improvements are needed for bus stops and major transfer points?

You can take the Transportation Survey online to help answer these questions at:

<http://scrted.org>

You can submit questions or comments at: SCRTDcomments@gmail.com

Driver Shields Added to Bus Fleet

The pandemic has required both riders and bus operators to adjust to the impact in service. In response, the District installed driver barriers and hand sanitizers inside each bus and provided signage to assist bus riders boarding and alighting from the buses. Additionally, free masks were provided to riders and free fares provided to assist in social distancing among bus riders and the drivers.

Daily bus cleaning with disinfectant and foggers are used. Buses are given deep cleaning on the weekend and special solvents are used to provide a protective shield on high boarding locations. Riders have adjusted to the new measures as ridership has fallen and risen during the past eight months. January service changes will be executed with plans to implement new buses, with driver shields and front and rear doors to provide easy access to the bus with social distance seat separation provided on each bus. Buses will be available to transport riders to get Covid tests as well as Vaccines when they become available.



New Driver Shields