



## ***Free Rides Extended Thru Labor Day***

Las Cruces, New Mexico-With gas prices reaching \$5.00 for a gallon of gasoline, the South Central Regional Transit District has extended free rides through Labor Day, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Free rides have attracted many new riders and encouraged residents to try transit. Ridership has risen by 15 percent in the past three months and continues to rise every month since the free rides promotion began.

SCRTD Board Chair and Sunland Park Mayor, Javier Perea said “that the free rides promotion helps meets our mission to assist residents with their travel needs to reach their destinations whether it be to school, work, medical appointments, or entertainment venues. Summer travel for our youth is a great time to use the bus because each bus has Wi-Fi on board.”

“Ridership on SCRTD has grown by 45 percent this past year, reported David Armijo, Executive Director to the SCRTD Board this past week. “The Transit District is planning to add electric vehicles to its fleet in about eighteen months. This will improve performance and help improve our environment,” said Mr. Armijo.

SCRTD route and schedule information is available at [scrtd.org](http://scrtd.org), via Google Maps or by calling 575-323-1620.

### About Doña Ana County

Doña Ana County is in southern New Mexico bordering Texas and Mexico. With a population of 219,561, it is the second largest county in the State of New Mexico. The County seat is in Las Cruces and is the largest majority-Hispanic county in the state.

### About SCRTD

SCRTD was formed in 2006 and began operation of service in 2016. The regional transit agency operates eight bus routes that serve three counties carrying over 80,000 riders in 2022. SCRTD services connect riders with Las Cruces Roadrunner bus service, El Paso's Sun Metro, and other local operators.