

Spring Newsletter



SOUTH CENTRAL
REGIONAL
TRANSIT DISTRICT
June 2024



Here’s what has happened in the last month and what’s to come!

- **Bus Shelter Procurement Initiated.** There are programmed monies for the bus shelters so now procurement needs to be done. The stops are being evaluated now.
- **Micro Transit in Development.** Micro-transit may be the answer to those problems.
- **Sunland Park Negotiations continuing.**
- **Charging Stations** in process of start-Ups. The charging stations will be small. They will work well anywhere. Electric service will need to be upgraded before larger stations can be installed.



In this newsletter you can expect:

Year to date ridership by route

Grant Development

Sierra County Route Preparation

Welcome New Team Members

Prevent Heat Illness at work

Year to date ridership by route.

Ridership for April 2024 is over 11,00. This will make the yearly target of 100,000 easy to reach. Statistics show that in 2023, operating expenses have almost doubled in the last five years. Ridership continues to grow. Overall, vehicle revenue hours show increased productivity. Operating expense between unlinked passenger trips is \$18.26, which is lower than before. There are several grants bringing in monies and managing them is a challenge. . The stops are being evaluated now. The routes on the east mesa are challenging to plan because the county line is erratic. Micro-transit may be the answer to those problems.

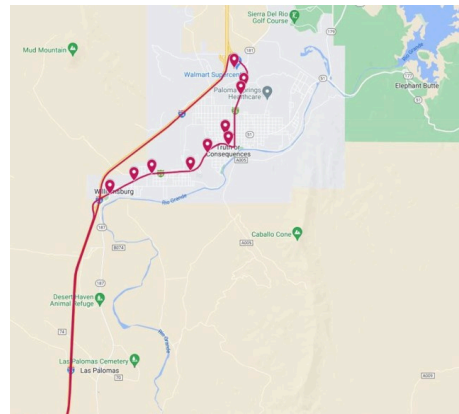
Period	RED	PURPLE	TURQUOISE	YELLOW	GREEN	Blue	Silver	COPPER	Passenger Total
Jul-23	900	357	613	4611	177	104	776	108	7646
Aug-23	1100	661	723	5847	614	0	766	131	9842
Sep-23	1080	607	789	5527	571	285	795	122	9776
Oct-23	1207	795	859	6012	584	0	775	113	10345
Nov-23	1169	607	694	5206	554	0	658	95	8983
Dec-23	901	567	732	4859	401	61	607	109	8237
Jan-24	896	567	809	5552	524	0	816	93	9257
Feb-24	967	887	868	6426	397	0	917	96	10558
Mar-24	1239	472	889	6636	634	60	998	126	11054
Apr-24	1134	825	772	6833	530	0	989	152	11235
May-24									0
Jun-24									0
YTD	10,593	6,345	7,748	57,509	4,986	510	8,097	1,145	96,933

Grant Development

This district was awarded funds from the two urban grants from FY2022 and FY2023. Staff processed the first of two funding requests and expects to receive \$326K additional funds.

Additionally, the district received \$268,000 from the New Mexico Department of Finance Administration, the legislature's funds from this year, which will be given priority in the state's release of funds this summer. These funds will be added to the \$300,000 received last year, bringing the total to \$568,000. These funds will support the battery-electric-powered bus purchases scheduled for delivery later this year. These funds are primarily capital only, not operations. The limited operating funds support current bus operations and are not added funds.

The release of the funds will allow the district to implement transit services that support our transit community.



Sierra County Route Preparation

The District Board approved initiating a pilot bus route that will operate from July 4th, 2024 through June 30th, 2025. See the map attached.

As we prepare for the start-up of this route, staff requests working with a county staff member to review and approve the location of the bus stops. Once this is done, we want to establish the route on independence day, and with some help marketing the new service, we hope to attract some of the summer visitors that you have in your area while educating the community about this new bus service. The bus will connect to our Green Line bus in Hatch that operates service to Las Cruces connecting the hospitals, mall, and university/community college.



Welcome aboard!

Please welcome our newest Tim Members
Tim McDaniel- special projects planner
Josh Lopez- Driver
David Ortiz- Driver
Jake Nail- Driver
Julio Saucedo- Driver
Victor Rodriguez- Driver
Erika Mendoza-Driver

Prevent Heat Illness at work

Outdoor and **indoor** heat exposure can be dangerous.

Here are ways to protect yourself and others.



Hydrate

Drink cool water even if you aren't thirsty- at least 1 cup every 20 minutes.



Take Breaks

Take enough time to recover from heat given the temperature, Humidity, and conditions.



Find Shade or a Cool Area

Take breaks in a designated shady or cool Location.



Dress for the Heat

Wear a hat and light-colored, loose-fitting, and breathable clothing if possible.



Watch Out for Each Other

Monitor yourself and others for signs of heat illness.



If Wearing a face Covering

Change your face covering if it gets wet or soiled, verbally check on others frequently.

The Following are signs of a medical emergency!

- o Abnormal thinking or behavior
- o slurred speech
- o seizures
- o Loss of consciousness

>>CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY

>> COOL THE INDIVIDUAL RIGH AWAY WITH WATER OR ICE

>> STAY WITH THE INDIVIDUAL UNTIL HELP ARRIVES



REGISTER FOR THE HEAT RESILIENCY AT BUS STOPS WEBINAR

This event is hosted by South West Transit Association.

Event Date: June 11, 2024

Time: 11:00 AM CST

REGISTER HERE:

<https://members.swta.org/ap/Events/Register/14HXdO5uRtVCB>