



Valley Metro Update

December 16, 2015

Topics

- Agency Overview
- Valley Metro Updates
- Valley Metro Accessibility Programs
- Accessibility-Related Updates

Valley Metro Agency Overview

- Established in 1986 to Plan and provide regional transportation services in Maricopa County
- Greater Phoenix region, including 15 communities, Gila Bend and Ajo
- 47 bus routes and light rail
- 400 Vanpool vans and the Regional Rideshare and Commute Solutions programs

Valley Metro Agency Overview

- Regional Customer Service and ADA paratransit eligibility certification services
- ADA paratransit and alternative transportation programs serving seniors and people with disabilities

Valley Metro Updates

- August 23, 2015 – Central Mesa Extension opens for business
 - Extends light rail from Main and Sycamore in Mesa east to Mesa Drive
 - Provides a quick and convenient connection between downtown Mesa and the rest of the region
- March 19, 2016 set as opening day for Northwest Extension
 - Will extend light rail service along 19th Avenue from Bethany Home Road to Dunlap Avenue
 - Will extend light rail system to a total of 26 miles

Valley Metro Updates

- Free Bus, Light Rail and Dial-a-Ride Fares on New Year's Eve
 - Annual partnership between VM and Coors Light
 - Free fares on all transit modes from 7 pm until service ends

Valley Metro Accessibility Programs

- Accessible bus, light rail, Express, Rapid, BRT, circulator and other transit services
- Dial-a-Ride services to complement Valley Metro's accessible fixed-route transit services
- Travel training for individuals with disabilities to enable use of bus and light rail whenever possible
- 50% fare reduction on all buses and light rail for qualified youth, seniors and people with disabilities
- Free Platinum Pass for ADA certified residents of participating communities to promote fixed-route use whenever possible
- Subsidized taxi programs in the East Valley, in Phoenix and Scottsdale to further enhance mobility for seniors and people with disabilities

Regional Paratransit Plan Update

- Goals of the Update
 - Increase consistency of Dial-a-Ride policies throughout the region
 - Develop approach to address regional Dial-a-Ride travel
- Regionally Consistent Policies
 - Door-to-door service
 - Scheduling and boarding windows
 - Package policy
 - Rules for traveling with PCA's, Companions and children
 - Visitor policies and procedures
- Anticipated Recommendations for Regional Trips
 - Elimination of Dial-a-Ride transfers
 - Applies to ADA mandated trips only
 - Regional Dial-a-Ride fare of \$4 per one-way trip

Regional Paratransit Plan Next Steps

- Stakeholder Meeting in late January to review all final plan recommendations and gather input
- Presentation to Valley Metro Transit Management Committee and Board for approval in February
- Policy changes effective on or about July 1, subject to approval by Valley Metro and other Dial-a-Ride providers

Valley Metro Accessibility Advisory Group

- Working group comprised of seniors, people with disabilities and other appropriate stakeholders
- Provide input to staff on policies, programs and services impacting seniors and people with disabilities
- Group to reflect geographic, gender, ethnic, age and disability diversity
- Information about VMAAG being presented to Transit Management Committee and Board during January
- Goal is to have group formed by the end of March, 2016

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