



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2019

Golden Empire Transit District Has Purchased 24 New Low NOx Engine, CNG Buses from New Flyer

Bakersfield, CA – Golden Empire Transit District has purchased 24 new low floor, compressed natural gas buses from New Flyer of America, which will replace 27% of GET’s current fleet. These new buses will offer lower operating costs with a more stable fuel supply and cost, and improved mechanical reliability that will improve on-time performance.

The new buses have near zero emission compressed natural gas engines, which are 90% cleaner than current EPA emission standards. Natural gas is a low carbon, domestic fuel that lowers overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. GET now uses Renewable Natural Gas (RNG), which is natural gas produced from landfills or organic waste. Combining Cummins Westport near zero emission engines with RNG provides additional GHG reductions.

These new state-of-the-art buses will better connect passengers who are on the go, with 20 USB ports for charging electronic devices conveniently located throughout the buses. New upgraded, ergonomic plastic seats, which are easier to clean and all GET buses are fully ADA accessible with wheelchair ramps and priority seating.

“Putting these buses on the street takes us significantly closer to the community’s goal of reducing the use of non-renewable fuels in Bakersfield’s buses,” Karen King, CEO of GET said. “Clean, efficient CNG-fueled buses deliver the same number of people to their destinations with 20 percent less tailpipe greenhouse emissions.”

With nearly 6 million travelers per year, these upgrades are part of a robust plan to fully transform GET into an innovative, state-of-the-art system with improved customer service and first-class amenities.

Simme Seats

In addition, GET has purchased and installed the Simme seat, which is designed to fit at stops where a transit shelter cannot be accommodated because of a lack of space or stops with lower usage. Providing passengers with some seating at these locations will improve the rider’s experience.

The Simme seat is a good solution that maximizes space by offering seating for two customers, as well as incorporating the bus stop sign and route schedule.

24 new Simme seats have been purchased and will be installed over the next few months throughout Bakersfield.

GET was formed in July 1973 and is the primary public transportation provider for the Bakersfield Urbanized Area. It is the largest public transit system within a 110-mile radius. The District's legal boundary includes Bakersfield city limits as well as adjacent unincorporated areas. GET has a fleet of 90 compressed natural gas buses equipped with wheelchair lifts and bike racks. GET services 16 routes, which operate 7 days a week and transport more than 6 million passengers each year with its fixed route buses. In addition, GET operates 21 compressed natural gas GET-A-Lift buses. GET has an economic impact; every \$1.00 GET spends and invests creates \$5.80 in return. The International Standards Organization formally recognizes GET for its certified Environmental Management System. For more information, visit www.getbus.org or call 869.2GET (2438).