

**GOLDEN EMPIRE TRANSIT DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**JULY 16, 2019  
5:30 PM**

**1830 GOLDEN STATE AVENUE  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Jim Baldwin  
Cindy Parra

Carlos Bello  
Rueben Pascual

Leasa Engel

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

None

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

Jim Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Deidre Brown  
Candra Cheers  
Robert Williams  
Ricardo Perez

Jeanie Hill  
Chris James  
Victor Honorato  
Amanda Villanueva

Steve Barnes  
Jill Smith  
Emery Rendes  
Sharon Pierce

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Bob Snoddy  
Danny Frenert

Suzanne Campbell

Michele Timmerman

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Susanne Campbell led the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Baldwin moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

(Director Bello entered the meeting at 5:34 pm)

## **VOLUNTEER DRIVER PROGRAM PRESENTATION**

Mr. Bob Snoddy presented information about the Volunteer Driver Program. (See Attachment A). 5310 funds would cover administrative expenses for the first year. Subsequent years, the District would be required to cover the administrative expenses. This was an informational item.

## **CONNEXIONZ MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

Mr. Barnes shared that in consideration of the anticipated useful life of the AVL and PIS system and the District's current fleet replacement schedule, as well as the implicit discount for a multi-year maintenance agreement offered by Connexionz, the Facilities and Equipment Committee recommended that the three-year maintenance plan be purchased.

Director Engel moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to approve the procurement of a three-year Maintenance Agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PURCHASE OF MICROTRANSIT VEHICLES**

Mr. Honorato stated that the District has funding for fifteen (15) new Ford Transit 350 vehicles. These vehicles would be used for Micro-transit RYDE. The vehicles are equipped to carry 7 ambulatory passengers and one wheelchair passenger. The Facilities and Equipment Committee met on July 10, 2019 to discuss the procurement of the vehicles and concurred with the purchase recommendation.

Director Pascual moved and Director Baldwin seconded a motion to approve the purchase of fifteen wheelchair accessible vans through the CalAct Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative in the amount of \$795,595.30. The motion carried unanimously.

## **BUS WASH FACILITY**

Mr. Honorato shared that the District has budgeted for the replacement of the existing Bus Wash Facility. The existing facility is more than 30 years old and has surpassed its useful service life.

Director Pascual moved and Director Baldwin seconded a motion to award a contract to Air & Lube Systems in the amount of \$1,092,509.46 for a new Bus Wash Facility based on being the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

## **2019 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Ms. Brown shared that it is anticipated that RYDE will reach 100 rides a day soon. This was an informational item only.

## **JUNE 2019 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Mr. Barnes reviewed the June 2019 financial reports. This was an informational item only.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS**

Director Baldwin asked that an update on CSUB be provided at the next Board meeting.

Director Bello concurred and also asked that an update be provided on the High Speed Rail issue.

Director Engel suggested that RYDE information be provided to senior / assisted living centers in Bakersfield.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMENTS:** None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Director Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary of the Board of Directors

Routes

Flexible Transit

More

## TRIP

elderly    medical    rides

### Forms and Downloads

 VVTA

 (760) 995-3561

 BMiller@VVTA.org

 See below for more information.

About TRIP

TRIP Driver

TRIP Rider

TRIP Driver (en Español)

TRIP Rider (en Español)

TRIP is a self-directed, mileage reimbursement transportation service that complements public transportation. Volunteers such as friends and neighbors transport transit-dependent elderly, people with disabilities, and others to access medical and other services where no transit service exists.

## What is TRIP?

VVTA strives to improve mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities. The Transportation Reimbursement for Individuals Program (TRIP) provides an incentive for volunteer drivers (usually friends or neighbors) to assist eligible individuals who are unable to drive or access public transportation by providing necessary, escorted transportation. Participants receive funds to reimburse the volunteer driver and to offset the cost associated with providing transportation.

## **How does it work?**

- If qualified, you must identify someone who is willing to be your driver. (You can have more than one driver.)
- You keep track of your trips and miles driven to transport you.
- At the end of the month, you submit your records.
- We reimburse you (as long as funding is available), and then you reimburse your driver(s).

**\*Reimbursement payments will be made through direct deposit; the reimbursement amount will be automatically deposited into your bank account. Paper checks will not be used. In order to receive reimbursement payments, you MUST provide a bank account number.**

## **Am I qualified?**

An eligibility determination committee will determine whether or not you are qualified. You may be qualified if you:

- Are disabled, frail, or unable to drive;
- Are unable to use other forms of transportation (such as buses)
- Live in San Bernardino County's rural, mountain, or desert communities
- Those using TRIP cannot simultaneous use VVTA Direct Access service, which is complementary ADA paratransit service

## **Highlights**

- You recruit volunteer drivers from people you know and trust
- Your trips can include multiple destinations
- You schedule your rides at times that are convenient for both you and your volunteer driver
- You and your volunteer driver can enjoy companionship

## **How do I sign up?**

Contact us to receive the application materials.

## **SOLE PayCard**

For those who do not have a bank account, debit card, or credit card, learn more about the SOLE PayCard by downloading the PDF. With the SOLE PayCard, money is directly deposited on your card on the day of payment, and there is no need to go to check cashing locations.

## **Contact Us**

*17150 Smoke Tree Street  
Hesperia, CA 92345*

Contact Form

Rider Survey

(760) 948-3030

(760) 948-1380

**Victor Valley Transit Authority (VVTA) operates Victor Valley Transit**

Title VI Civil Rights Program

Reasonable Modifications

Lost & Found

Public Records

Advertising

Board Meetings

Procurement

Employment

Technical Advisory Committee

Budget Reports

**(760) 244-4000**  
ADA Direct Access

**[info@vvta.org](mailto:info@vvta.org)**

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CONNECTING COMMUNITY TO OPPORTUNITY  
**MOBILITY**  
VICTOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## **Transportation Reimbursement for Individuals Program**

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### **What is TRIP?**

VVTA strives to improve mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities. The Transportation Reimbursement for Individuals Program (TRIP) provides an incentive for volunteer drivers (usually friends or neighbors) to assist eligible individuals who are unable to drive or access public transportation by providing necessary, escorted transportation. Participants receive funds to reimburse the volunteer driver and to offset the cost associated with providing transportation.

### **How does it work?**

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- At the end of the month, you submit your records.
- We reimburse you (as long as funding is available), and then you reimburse your driver(s).

*\*Reimbursement payments will be made through direct deposit; the reimbursement amount will be automatically deposited into your bank account. Paper checks will not be used. In order to receive reimbursement payments, you MUST provide a bank account number.*

### **Alternative Payment Method: SOLE PayCard**

For those who do not have a bank account, debit card, or credit card, learn more about the SOLE PayCard by downloading the PDF. With the SOLE PayCard, money is directly deposited on your card on the day of payment, and there is need to go to check cashing locations.



**Am I qualified?**

An eligibility determination committee will determine whether or not you are qualified. You may be qualified if you:

- Are disabled, frail, or unable to drive;
- Are unable to use other forms of transportation (such as buses); and
- Live in San Bernardino County's rural, mountain, or desert communities (excluding Hesperia, Victorville, and Apple Valley)
- Those using TRIP cannot simultaneously use VVTA Direct Access service, which is complementary ADA paratransit service

**Highlights**

- You recruit volunteer drivers from people you know and trust
- Your trips can include multiple destinations
- You schedule your rides at times that are convenient for both you and your volunteer driver
- You and your volunteer driver can enjoy companionship
- How do I sign up?

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CONNECTING COMMUNITY TO OPPORTUNITY

**MOBILITY**

VICTOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

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## TRIP Rider Information

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### Welcome To Trip

- Know your eligibility-refer to your “Welcome Letter”.
- Find a volunteer driver.
- Give your driver the “for your Volunteer Driver” packet.
- Submit reimbursement forms at the end of each month. Mail all forms together.
- Pay your driver(s) in full.

### Things To Remember

- Learn to fill-in your mileage reimbursement forms correctly.
- Mark the last day of the month on your calendar: “mail TRIP reimbursement form” don’t forget—forms must be received in our office by the 10th of the month.
- Failure to reimburse your driver can affect your TRIP eligibility.
- You can have more than one volunteer. In fact, it is a good idea to have more than one, and many TRIP riders do.
- Arrangements for travel are completely up to you and your volunteers. Plan to travel when it is convenient for you both.
- Always record your travel on your request for reimbursement form on the day that you make the trip. **DON’T FORGET YOU BOTH MUST SIGN.**
- Reimbursement will be processed on the 25th of each month.