



**RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
COUNTY OF TULARE  
AGENDA ITEM**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KUYLER CROCKER  
District One  
PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two  
AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three  
EDDIE VALERO  
District Four  
DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** April 9, 2019

Public Hearing Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Celeste Perez    PHONE: (559)624-7010		

**SUBJECT:** Authorize TCaT to participate in TCAG's free ride programs

**REQUEST(S):**  
That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the Resource Management Agency Director and/or his designee to implement a Free Ride Day on April 13, 2019 on Tulare County Area Transit (TCaT) in honor of Earth Day and on such future days as recommended by the Tulare County Association of Governments; and
2. Authorize the Resource Management Agency Director and/or his designee to request reimbursement from the Tulare County Association of Governments if funds are made available to reimburse for this or any future free ride events for which Tulare County Association of Governments makes funds available.

**SUMMARY:**  
The City of Visalia has effectively implemented a Free Ride program in honor of Earth Day for over three years. The Free Ride program offers free rides on their fixed-route bus system on a Saturday close to Earth Day. Earth Day is an annual event held each April 22<sup>nd</sup> to support awareness and protection of the environment. The rides are offered on a Saturday to attract more riders to explore the transit system on the weekend, which has lower ridership than weekdays.

Recently at the monthly Transit Forum with the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) and the various transit providers throughout the County, TCAG staff suggested that all agencies participate in the event and offer free rides on Saturday, April 13, 2019. This day was chosen because Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> is the day

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before Easter this year and therefore could cause confusion or lower interest than other times. Participation in the event would show support for public transit as an environmental alternative for transportation and encourage future ridership.

Staff also request that Tulare County Area Transit (TCaT) be allowed to participate in this and future free ride days as recommended by TCAG, which may include future Earth Days, Election Day, and other holidays or notable events. Further, TCAG staff have stated that the TCAG Board will consider authorizing funds for reimbursement for this and possible future free ride days. As such, staff are requesting that the Resource Management Agency Director and/or his designee be authorized to request reimbursement funds for this free ride day and any such future day for which funds are made available.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

There are no net County costs to the General Fund.

Participation in the Free Ride Day may cause a reduction in farebox receipts for TCaT for the day of Saturday, April 13, 2019. This reduction is estimated at approximately \$300 based upon a review of Saturday farebox receipts from spring of 2018. This reduction represents a fraction of a percent of the Transit Budget and will not significantly impact transit funding metrics, including the farebox recovery ratio, or the eligibility of the County for state or federal transit funding. If funds are made available by the TCAG for reimbursement for participation in the program, this will result in little or no decrease in fare revenues.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

This program links to Strategic Initiative 1: Safety and Security includes the goal of improving and maintaining adequate transportation infrastructure. The proposed action meets this initiative by promoting the use of public transit among County residents.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**



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Reed Schenke, P.E.  
Director

RS:rm

cc: County Administrative Office

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZE TCAT TO )  
PARTICIPATE IN TCAG'S FREE RIDE ) Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_  
PROGRAMS )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY  
SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD APRIL 9, 2019, BY  
THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

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