

In this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Summer Senior Day..... | 2 |
| APTA Early Career Program..... | 2 |
| MV-1/CNG Training | 3 |
| Beyond the Curb Service..... | 3 |
| Access Driver Job Fair..... | 4 |
| Rider Comments | 4 |

Behind the Scene

Executive Report

I am happy to report that the Fiscal Year 2015-16 budget was approved by Access' Board of Directors earlier this week. The budget of \$167.4 million dollars will provide for the transportation of 4.48 million passengers, an 11% increase over the previous year. The budget also includes funding for costs related to Origin to Destination (Beyond the Curb service) and Dynamic Fare.

In addition the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that governs the funding and responsibilities between Access and Metro (in its role as the regional planning authority) was finalized this week. The MOU provides a firm foundation for Access to execute its mission on the behalf of all of its member agencies.

Have a happy and safe 4th of July weekend!

*Shelly Verrinder,
Executive Director*

County Commission Awards Scholarships



Photo: (L) Access Customer Service Administrator, Louis Burns, (Centered) Access CEO, F. Scott Jewell, and winning recipient participants

On Tuesday, June 30, Louis Burns, Access' Customer Service Administrator, Stephen Wrenn, Mobility Management Counselor, and Chief Operating Officer, F Scott Jewell, attended the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities award ceremony. There were five young men and women selected to receive educational scholarships sponsored by the Commission. The event was held at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in Downtown Los Angeles.

Each recipient was presented with their Commission on Disabilities Scholarship Certificate by their L.A. County Supervisor. The scholarship program honors students with disabilities who want to become more independent and self-sufficient through higher education. The following individuals received awards:

Zarech Lopez, 1st District. Zarech graduated from Mt. San Antonio College this spring and is moving forward into their Nursing Program. Zarech earned her Certificate in Medical Terminology at La Puente Valley Clinic.

Daniel Barrios, 2nd District. Daniel graduated from Lynwood High and plans to pursue a degree in animation and music at East L. A. College. Daniel is a passionate volunteer with the Lynwood Youth Center and an excellent role model who participated in numerous activities at Lynwood High.

Schiller Auguste, 4th District. Schiller served in the U.S. Marine Corps and earned his Associate of Arts Degree in general studies. Schiller plans to transfer to California State University this fall.

Haley Castrillon, 5th District. Haley graduated from Redondo Union High and plans to attend El Camino Community College.

Continued on page 4

The Jackie Robinson Center Summer Senior Day Camp



Photo: Senior Citizens participants at the Summer Senior Day Camp

On June 23, 2015, the Jackie Robinson Center in Pasadena held their Summer Senior Day Camp which provides services to Pasadena residents. The session focused on transportation options for seniors who no longer drive.

The Day Camp also provides seniors with a chance to go on day trips and visit tourist attractions around the city using public transportation.

Stephen Wrenn, Access Mobility Management Counselor, gave an informal presentation to a group of 30 seniors on Access Services, and the additional services that the Mobility Management Program provides.

Many of the seniors in attendance are current Access customers and had plenty of questions about changes affecting the service, such as Beyond the Curb service. Participants were grateful to receive promotional items and information packets for review.

*By Steve Wrenn,
Mobility Management Counselor*

Access Participates in APTA's Early Career Program



Photo: The second graduating class participants at the APTA Early Career Program

On Monday, May 4th, the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) hosted the graduation for its second class of transit professionals participating in its newly formed Early Career Program at its Bus and Paratransit Conference in Ft. Worth,

Texas. The Early Career Program (ECP) was created by APTA to give young professionals with three to five years of transit industry experience an overview of the transit industry. This seminar also highlighted some of the challenges as well as the rewards of working in public transit.

This year's class, of which I was a participant, started at APTA's Rail Conference in June of last year and, throughout the year-long process, the approximately two dozen participants from across the country were paired with mentors in the transit industry.

The group participated in discussions on building a diverse and productive workforce, preparing an effective presentation, techniques of leading a team, project management skills as well as how to build one's professional network and participate in industry change through the APTA organization.

This program was an effective and thorough way to gain exposure to the broad field of working in public transportation and to develop professional relationships with other transit professionals, from new managers to long-time industry leaders.

APTA's Early Career Program was an excellent way to immerse future leaders in the public transit industry. I am certain this experience will serve to make me a more effective team-member in helping Access achieve its goals in the future. For questions or comments about the APTA Early Career Program, please feel free to contact me.

*By Eric Haack,
Strategic Planner*

Access Hosts MV-1/CNG Safety Training

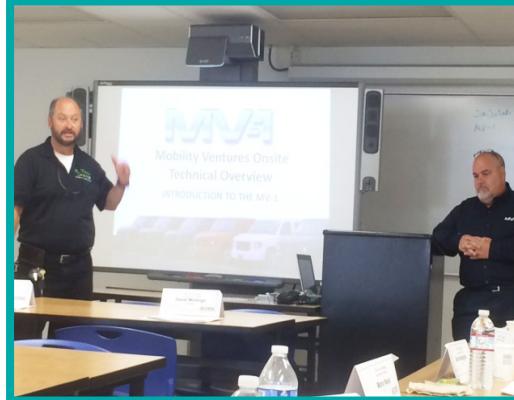


Photo: (L) Jim Centorbi, MV-1 instructor, and (R) Terry Cuzzocrea, MV-1 instructor

Access Services, in collaboration with Mobility Venture (MV-1), hosted a three day MV-1 Familiarization and CNG Safety Training course from June 16 -18, at Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTC).

The course consisted of the MV-1 vehicle maintenance schedule, Access ramp overview, the MV-1 Diagnostic unit and MV-1 Connect (MV-1 Connect is a web portal for all technical components). The course was attended by Access and contractor maintenance staff.

This class was a tremendous success garnering a great deal of interest and participation. Access thanks LATTC and Mobility Venture LLC for partnering with our agency to provide this outstanding course!



Photo: (Centered) Access Fleet Maintenance Analyst, William Kim, and MV-1/CNG training participants

By William Kim,
Fleet Maintenance Analyst

Beyond the Curb and Reasonable Modification

Happy New (Fiscal) Year! On July 1, 2015, Access started two initiatives, Origin to Destination, or as we have labeled it "Beyond the Curb" Service, and Reasonable Modification.

What is Beyond the Curb Service?

Beyond the Curb Service is additional assistance from drivers to help customers get to and from the vehicle.

What is Reasonable Modification?

Reasonable Modification are requests from customers for Access to modify its policy and procedures so that the customer can use the service.

We are asking customers who feel they need Reasonable Modifications or Beyond the Curb service for most or all of their trips to contact Customer Service, Option #6, to request an application form. They can also find the application form on our website.

For more information on both services, please visit our website:

Beyond the Curb:

accessla.org/riding_access/btc.html

Reasonable Modification:

accessla.org/riding_access/rmod.html

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Rider Comments

Customer stated he is very happy with the service, and he wants to thank Access for getting him to his treatments.

*Angel,
Rider since July 2014*

Customer would like to give commend Access for the wonderful service they provide.

*Godofredo,
Rider since June 2014*

Access Host Driver Job Fair



Photo: (Centered) Access Deputy Executive Director, Faye Moseley, and Access Provider staff at the LATTC Job Fair

Access Services hosted a Driver Job Fair on Thursday, June 4 at Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTC). The job fair was a collective opportunity for Access provider and partner agencies to recruit and meet with prospective candidates seeking Driver positions. The job fair was well attended by Access provider staff from Santa Clarita, MV-Valley, California Transit, San Gabriel Transit and Global Paratransit. Foothill

Transit was also in attendance seeking to recruit fixed-route Bus Drivers. Job seekers in attendance were given the opportunity to meet with Recruiters from the various regional contract providers. Candidates were provided with an overview of what it's like to work for a paratransit/transit agency. The LATTC Worksource Career Center co-sponsored the job fair with Access. The LATTC Worksource Career Center not only provides assistance to students in their career search but also reaches out into the community to assist Veterans and Employment Development agencies with job placement.

This was a great opportunity for providers to meet with prospective candidates and discuss the managing agency/contract relationship and Driver expectations. This was the first time Access hosted a job fair specifically focused on Driver recruitment. As a result, the candidates that attended the job fair were eager for the opportunity to interview to become a Driver with Access.

*By Sherri Adams,
Training & Development Coordinator*

Continued-County Commission Awards Scholarships

Haley is a passionate artist devoted to mastering her musical talents and acquiring the confidence to face life's challenges.

Fyodor Bondarenko, 5th District. Fyodor graduated from Blair High in Pasadena and just completed his freshman year at college. He plans to pursue his bachelor's degree in English literature while participating in Book and Creative Writing Clubs.

*By Louis Burns,
Customer Service Administrator*

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