What Is New At FAX – November 2019

November 20, 2019

FAX BRT, the “Q” Wins the Public Transportation Project Award

FAX’s Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Route 1 has been a positive development for transit riders, the City of Fresno, and the community as a whole. Since going into revenue service in February 2018, transit riders can travel along Blackstone Avenue from Downtown to the north side of town almost 20% faster than before BRT. BRT not only covers the full length of Blackstone from downtown, it also extends eastward along Ventura/Kings Canyon to Clovis Avenue.

Ridership has increased not only on Route 1, but also system-wide, exceeding 10.5 million trips last fiscal year. Additionally, at the city-level, the BRT is encouraging transit-oriented development, revitalizing neighborhoods, and promoting needed in-fill housing development.

With all of these benefits, BRT is getting the attention it deserves. The project won the “Public Transportation Project Award” at the 2019 Fresno Regional Transportation Innovations Summit. A joint production of the Fresno State Transportation Institute and the Fresno Council of Governments, the Summit was held on October 23, 2019, at the Elite Events Center in Fresno.

Congratulations to BRT for winning the award – and to our “Q” riders for making the service a great success!
Late-Night Saturday Service has Arrived!

After consistent requests from our transit passengers, FAX rolled out late-night Saturday service on November 16, 2019, on Routes 1, 9, 28, 32 and 38, in addition to Handy Ride. Service now runs on these routes and Handy Ride until approximately midnight, six days a week. Please note that on Sundays, service on these routes still ends between 7 and 8 p.m. as previously scheduled.

Schedules for the “last trip of the night” on Routes 1, 9, 28, 32, and 38 have also changed. To see new last trip times for these routes Mondays through Saturdays, please visit the Fresno.gov website.

Bus Stop Improvements Project Update

A few months ago, FAX started the Bus Stop Improvement Project – Buffer Median Islands to upgrade 19 bus stops throughout the FAX fixed-route system. A $2.2 million grant provides funding to build accessible locations to wait for the bus and accessible pathways for passengers to get to and from the sidewalk to a median island bus stop.

The first phase of the project started on Friday, October 4, 2019, with phases two, three, and four starting in the weeks following. The following pictures show the progress at one of our stops nearing completion along Ashlan Avenue. As can be seen, ADA access will much improved for those who need it from the sidewalk across frontage road, to the new fully accessible bus stop.
To see all of the information pertaining to the Bus Stop Improvement Project – Buffer Median Islands project, please visit the Fresno.gov website.

**FAX Online Surveys Are Coming Soon!**

Surveys are an excellent way for transit riders to tell us how we are doing. To better understand the needs and wants of FAX transit riders, we have added online surveying capabilities to our customer service tool kit. This is one more way we are continually striving to improve service at FAX. Look for brief online surveys coming to your inbox soon. We want to hear from you!
Help Improve Travel in Fresno’s Reverse Triangle Area

Known as the Reverse Triangle community, the area along State Highways 41 and 99, from Church Avenue on the north to on Adams Avenue on the south, is a major employment hub in the region. This area houses large-scale employers such as the Amazon fulfillment center and Ulta Beauty, as well as residential, commercial, and educational centers.

Area residents, business owners, and community groups are invited to a workshop hosted by the Fresno Council of Governments at the Washington Union High School Cafeteria at 6041 E. Elm Street, Fresno, on November 23, 2019, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. The purpose of the workshop is for participants to help develop a plan for transportation investments in the community. The goal of the plan is to improve community access while considering the area’s importance as an employment hub.

Meeting attendees can talk to the planning team, view displays, and use interactive maps and other tools to provide direct feedback on issues important in the community area. Participants will be asked to share their experiences and ideas for additional transportation choices and neighborhood improvement.

Refreshments will be served.

If you can’t attend the workshop, please contact Kim Anderson at kanderson@rgs.ca.gov or 650-585-7300 Extension 30 for more opportunities to participate in this important project.