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What's New at FAX, April 2023

May 2, 2023

FAX at the “Picnic in the Park for Earth Day”

The City of Fresno has been abuzz in recent weeks with exciting entertainment and community events. In honor of Earth Day and to highlight FAX's efforts to go green, FAX displayed one of our nine battery electric buses at the “Picnic in the Park for Earth Day” event held at Inspiration Park on April 21st.

During this family-friendly event, children and their families were able to explore our non-polluting electric bus, talk to FAX and Handy Ride staff, and receive FAX merchandise.



Our 100% electric bus was very popular! Many people, including young children and teenagers, showed their enthusiasm as they explored the inside of our electric bus. As we work through the Spring and head into the Summer, look for FAX at upcoming community-based events.

FAX BRT Providing Expanded Service for Boots in the Park

World class country music made its way into Fresno recently in the form of “Boots in the Park.” If you were anywhere near Woodward Park, on Saturday, April 22, 2023, you likely saw FAX doing its part to ease event-related traffic.

To accommodate Boots in the Park, FAX ran expanded service from 11:00 AM to 11:30 PM, adding two temporary bus stops to serve festival attendees. The first was on the northeast corner of Friant and Fresno Street, while the second was at the southeast corner of Friant and Audubon.



Event organizers often look to FAX to offer additional transportation for large events that have the potential to create significant congestion. FAX is here to help!

More FAX Electric Buses on the Road

The State of California has a requirement that transit agencies fully transition their buses to zero-emission by 2040. FAX continues to make progress toward this goal with nine electric buses currently in service. One of them was recently on display at the “Picnic at the Park for Earth Day” at Inspiration Park.

As you can imagine, transitioning to a zero-emission fleet is much more than just buying new buses. There is the charging infrastructure needed to keep the electric buses on the road, training the bus drivers to drive them in a manner that conserves electricity, and training the bus mechanics to maintain and repair them.

FAX has recently finished installing 23 high-capacity electric bus chargers. The new chargers can charge 46 buses at a time, meaning we have room for future electric buses coming soon. This new 3-megawatt Electric Bus Charging Station requires six hours to fully charge an electric bus and is the largest facility of its kind in the region.

At FAX, We Work for You

Navigating Fresno can be challenging for anyone, especially for someone living with health conditions and impairments. Fortunately, FAX Handy Ride has specialized transit service for those who need it.

Chenier Derrick, FAX's Paratransit Specialist, is tasked with being the liaison between Handy Ride customers and the service provider. He is legally blind and uses Handy Ride every day. He is proud to help and advocate for people with disabilities.



To see and here the video featuring Chenier Derrick, click here:

<https://youtu.be/zOsmNlddojE>

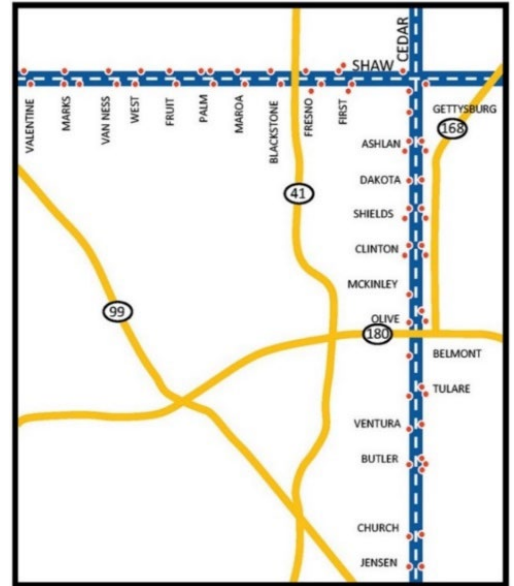
To learn more about Handy Ride or to complete an application, visit

<https://www.fresno.gov/transportation/fax/handy-ride/>. If you have questions about Handy Ride, call 559-621-7433.

Update on the Shaw-Cedar Bus Stop Improvement Project

FAX continues working on completing upgrades to bus stops on both Cedar and Shaw Avenues in the Shaw-Cedar Bus Stop Improvement Project.

The project includes upgrades to 63 bus stops along the FAX fixed-route system on Shaw from Valentine to Cedar, and on Cedar from Jensen to Shaw. It will provide accessible locations to wait for the bus and accessible pathways for passengers to reach the bus stops. Improvements include adding new bus stop amenities such as shelters, benches, and trash receptacles; enlarging concrete bus stop landings; and improving curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and security lighting.



Work is underway on the final cluster of bus stop improvements at Shaw and Sixth, and Shaw and Cedar.

To date, none of the updated bus stops have been returned to service. However, the contractor is expected to return completed bus stops into service in the next several weeks. Until then, we ask that passengers please use the temporary stops along the entire project corridor for boarding the buses.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to work through the confusion caused by stops that appear ready to return to service.



The Shaw Cedar Bus Stop Improvement project started in the Summer of 2022 and is expected to be completed in the Summer of 2023.

This project is part of FAX's effort to improve the transit rider's experience. Ultimately, this project benefits 10 additional bus routes which intersect Routes 9 and 38, including Routes 20, 22, 26, 32, 34, 35, 38, 39, 41, and 45.

We appreciate your patience with the ongoing construction process. If you have any questions, please dial 311.

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