



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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San Joaquin RTD Keeps County Operations Going Despite Neighboring Fire that Shut Down its Operating Facility

(Stockton, CA) – Very early Monday morning, June 14, 2010, despite the thick smoke still billowing across the road from a fire at a neighboring recycling facility, San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) employees went above and beyond to prepare RTD's Intercity and Commuter bus fleet for customers who would be riding just a few hours later.

RTD's response to the situation began the night before when, after a fire in the vicinity of RTD's "County" facility at the corner of Myrtle and Filbert Streets in Stockton caused the evacuation of its operating facility and a power outage at that location, RTD executive staff gathered to formulate a plan to continue services uninterrupted. RTD's County facility is the one out of which RTD operates its Intercity, Commuter, Hopper, and Dial-A-Ride services.

As soon as RTD staff, many of whom were evacuated during the fire, were able to gain access to the County facility, they began to pull the buses out and over to RTD's "Metro" facility (at Lindsay and Wilson Way). There they worked diligently to quickly and thoroughly clean (including deodorizing the smell of smoke) and stage (along a nearby street) the buses, for service for RTD customers who would be riding to work just a few hours later. These employees were joined by supervisors and one of RTD's police officers who began their workday hours much earlier than normal in order to assist in the emergency response.

Despite the power outage in the area, RTD was able to resume regular operations at the County facility on Monday after the fire was contained by relying upon its backup generator. Due to the efforts of its employees, RTD was able to operate all of its services as scheduled, and received no complaints from its customers about the smell of smoke.

RTD is proud of its employees and commends them for their dedication and going above and beyond their duties to ensure RTD provides not just exceptional, but extraordinary service to its customers even during challenging times such as this.

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