NEWS RELEASE

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Get to the 2007 Asparagus Festival via Metro Express!

San Joaquin RTD invites Festival attendees to ride the future of transit

(Stockton, CA) – The old AsparaBus, a recognizable and convenient feature of the Asparagus Festival, will step into the future for 2007 by using RTD's new Metro Express service and its diesel-electric hybrid buses to provide frequent, express bus service, conveniently transporting Asparagus Festival attendees between San Joaquin Delta College and the Asparagus Festival entry gate.

The Delta College campus offers ample parking within walking distance of the (NEW for this year!) TWO boarding locations: the Metro Express bus stop at Delta College, on Pacific Avenue at Yokuts Avenue, and the Shima 2 parking lot (the AsparaBus location used for the past several years) and.

Because RTD will be operating its Metro Express service to Downtown and the Asparagus Festival, Festival attendees now have two convenient options to get from Delta College to Downtown:

1. RTD's Metro Express service will operate every 15 minutes on Friday (NEW for this year!) and Saturday from 9am-8pm, and Sunday from 9am-7pm between the Metro Express bus stops on Pacific Avenue at Yokuts Avenue and Asparagus Festival entry Gate 3 (Oak and Center Streets).

2. RTD's new hybrid buses will supplement Metro Express service by providing additional, frequent service on Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 7pm between Delta's Shima 2 parking lot and Asparagus Festival entry Gate 3.

Also, by using RTD's Metro Express service, Festival attendees can purchase roundtrip bus passes, good on both Metro Express and bus service from Shima 2, at the same prices as RTD's regular passes:

* Adults (18-64) – $2.50
* Students (under 18 and college students with proper ID) – $2.00
* Seniors (65 and older) & Persons with Disabilities – $1.20
* Children 4 and under – Free, when accompanied by a fare-paying adult

(more)

You can purchase your bus passes at Delta College in the Shima 2 parking lot on Saturday and Sunday, and can buy your Asparagus Festival tickets there, too! As an added bonus, RTD passengers who pre-purchase their Asparagus Festival entry tickets at Delta College get express entry into the Festival.

You can save even more time by purchasing your RTD passes in advance at the Downtown Transit Center (DTC):

421 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton
(209) 948-5566
Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information: call RTD's Customer Information Line - (209) 943-1111 or 1-800-HOW-TO-RIDE (1-800-469-8674). Visit us online at www.sanjoaquinRTD.com/asparabus

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