



NEWS RELEASE

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RTD Launches Expanded Metro Express Service; Accompanied by New Stockton and Intercity Routes

(Stockton, CA) – On Monday, January 24, San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) publicly launched its new Metro Express Route 44 and the realigned Metro Express Route 40. These two Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) routes provide express bus service between the Hammer Triangle in north Stockton and the Stockton Metropolitan Airport in south Stockton. In addition to this expanded service, January 24 was the first weekday of service for many new and restructured Stockton and Intercity routes.

The Metro Express Grand Opening and public launch took place at the Stockton Metropolitan Airport and was attended by numerous local elected officials, including members of the Stockton City Council and the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. The event's keynote speaker was Leslie Rogers, Region 9 Regional Administrator for the Federal Transit Administration.

The addition of Metro Express Route 44, the second of RTD's BRT routes, expands express bus service south of the Downtown Transit Center (DTC) along the Airport Corridor to the Stockton Airport. Route 44 connects at the DTC to Metro Express Route 40, which operates along the Pacific Corridor to the Hammer Triangle. Combined, these two routes operate 11+ miles of BRT service, more than doubling the length of Route 40, RTD's first BRT route and the first in San Joaquin County. During peak times, buses on these routes arrive every 10 minutes, and every 15 or 30 minutes during non-peak times.

Along with the launch of expanded Metro Express service, January 24 also marked the first weekday of new and restructured Stockton and Intercity routes. Many of the changes are the elimination of redundant service along the Metro Express corridors, improving connections along the corridors to Stockton Metro and Intercity routes, elimination of low-performing service, and route adjustments that resulted from RTD's most recent round of public hearings. For more information on these changes, visit www.sanjoaquinrtd.com/serviceimprovement/default.php.

For route and schedule information, call the RTD Customer Information Line - (209) 943-1111 or 1-800-HOW-TO-RIDE (1-800-469-8674). Learn more about Metro Express at www.sanjoaquinRTD.com/express. For trip planning assistance, check out the new *Google Trip Planner* feature on RTD's website. You can follow San Joaquin RTD on Facebook and Twitter.

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