



NEWS RELEASE

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RTD to Participate in "Don't X Out Public Transit Day" on Tuesday, September 20

(Stockton, CA) – RTD will join public transportation organizations and supporters throughout the nation on Tuesday, September 20, for "Don't X Out Public Transit Day." Supporters of public transportation are asked to wear red as a show of support and as a call to action for Congress to oppose a proposal in the U.S. House of Representatives to cut federal transportation funding by more than 30 percent.

With over 4 million passenger trips on RTD each year, local residents rely on public transportation to get them to work and school every day. Such drastic cuts have the potential to create service delays, fare increases, and cutbacks to the number of vehicles running, leading to longer wait times. These cuts would have a severe effect on Stockton, as well as the entire country's ability to create and sustain jobs – further hampering efforts to stimulate the local economy.

"Safe and reliable transportation is at risk," said Donna DeMartino, General Manager and CEO of RTD. "Without federal investment in our nation's public transit systems the millions of Americans who depend on it daily may be left with longer wait times, overcrowding, and decreased services. Now is the time for our government to be investing in public transportation and our infrastructure, not cutting."

Organizers of the day say cuts this drastic will mean significant job loss in both the public and private sectors. Estimates show that 614,000 public transportation jobs could be lost over the next six years if a funding cut this extreme takes place.

According to the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), for every one dollar invested in public transportation, four dollars in economic returns is generated, and every \$1 billion invested in public transportation creates or supports 36,000 jobs.

Visit RTD on Facebook for photos on the day of the event.

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