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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TCAG ADDS SECOND TRANSIT MEETING TO GATHER PUBLIC INPUT

VISALIA — This year, the Tulare County Association of Governments will for the first time host two annual meetings to gather public input on transit routes countywide.

This year, members of the public will get two chances to voice their concerns about routes and services offered by Tulare County transit providers by attending one of the following meetings:

- 2 p.m., Monday, March 10 at Porterville City Council Chambers, 291 N. Main St.
- 1 p.m., Monday, March 17 at Visalia Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia Ave.

“By adding a second meeting location, we are hoping to get even more feedback from people on how to improve the routes and services offered by transit providers in Tulare County,” said Marvin Demmers, associate regional planner for TCAG. Transit providers include the cities of Visalia, Tulare, Porterville, Dinuba, Woodlake, Exeter and the County of Tulare.

In the past, input received at these meetings has resulted in the development of new transit routes, the addition of Sunday service in Visalia and the development of a regional transit pass.

"This meeting is a chance for the public to step forward and let us know what improvements need to be made, so we can take steps to do that," Demmers said. "We give each comment serious consideration and we make changes when we identify a need that is financially reasonable to meet."

Comments can also be mailed, e-mailed or phoned in by March 24 to TCAG in Visalia. All comments received by mail, e-mail or during the public hearing are considered by members of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, who then make recommendations to the Tulare County Association of Governments Board.

The public hearing is a state requirement, and is part of on-going efforts to increase public understanding of the transportation planning process and public involvement in the decision-making.

Through March 24, comments can be submitted by mail to TCAG, 5961 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277; by e-mail to mdeimmers@co.tulare.ca.us; or by phone by calling Marvin Demmers at 733-6291.

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