



# CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

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## **ADA PARATRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING QUARTERLY MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 AT 3:00 P.M.**

**SIMI VALLEY TRANSIT MAINTENANCE FACILITY  
490 WEST LOS ANGELES AVENUE, SIMI VALLEY, CA 93065**

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Approval of Minutes: July 20, 2023
5. Report of ADA Advisory Committee Chair
6. Representative Reports
  - A. Mayor (Fred Thomas)
  - B. Deputy Public Works Director(Transit) (Ben Gonzales)
7. Public Statements

This time is allotted for anyone who wishes to make a public statement or comment on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee. Comments are limited to five minutes per speaker, to allow everyone the opportunity to be heard.

8. Reports:
  - A. Update on Passenger Statistics (Transit Supervisor) (Eric Molina)
9. New Business
  - A. Information Update for Digital advertising displays for fixed route buses (Ben Gonzales, Deputy Public Works Director/Transit)
  - B. E-Fare (Mary Lozano)

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C. Transit Integration and Efficiency Study (TIES)

10. ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Member Comments

This time is allotted for Committee members to make a statement or comment on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee, which may include announcements and/or requests for future agenda items.

11. ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Coordinator's Report (Eric Molina, Transit Supervisor)

12. Suggested Future Agenda Items

13. Adjournment

14. Next meeting: Thursday, January 18, 2024, 3:00 p.m.; Location: Senior Center.



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Ronald K. Fuchiwaki  
Public Works Director

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Simi Valley Transit's Dial-A-Ride services at (805) 583-6464. Upon advance notification of the need for accommodation, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

**MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

Theresa Lewis (Chair) called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

A. Theresa introduced and welcomed Cynthia Roberts as the new alternate.

2. Roll Call

Karen Bobango	P
Ruth Lauro	P
Leanne Ford	P
Theresa Lewis	P
Isabel Huerta	P
Cynthia Roberts (alternate)	P
Rebecca McCann (alternate)	P

P: Present A: Absent V: Vacant

Staff: Fred Thomas, Mayor  
Eric Molina, Transit Supervisor  
Ben Gonzales, Deputy Public Works Director (Transit)

3. Agenda Review

No Revisions were made to the Agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes: April 20, 2023.

The Minutes for April 20, 2023 were approved as submitted.

Theresa Lewis reported a passenger complaint i.e., the passenger was scheduled to be picked up and transported to dialysis appointment. Either the booking was cancelled day prior or van did not show up at all for pick up. She also reported a second passenger being picked up late.

Eric Molina will follow up with Theresa Lewis regarding passenger information to look into the matter.

5. Representative Reports

A. Mayor Fred Thomas:

Mayor Thomas reported a new IHOP restaurant opening in Simi Valley. Mayor commented regarding the presentation of TIES at a Council meeting and hopes that a thorough study of new proposed routes will be conducted without disturbing existing service.

B. Deputy Public Works Director (Transit), Ben Gonzales:

Ben Gonzales reported on the upcoming micro transit service being conducted in smaller vehicles to main points of interest in the City. Possible start of service can be as early as January 2024. Also reported the driver pay increase has helped in the applications received for job posting. Simi Valley Transit (SVT) hired three new licensed drivers and has converted two part-time drivers to full-time drivers.

Ruth Lauro inquired if the micro transit service would be able to take passengers to medical appointments.

Mr. Gonzales responded that the service will go into main points of interest such as medical and shopping locations.

7. Public Statements

There were no public statements made.

8. Reports:

A. Update on Passenger Statistics

Transit Supervisor, Eric Molina went over the statistical rider data for the last quarter and reported ridership continuing to increase compared to the previous quarter and previous year.

Mr. Gonzales added that Dial-A-Ride is 30 to 40 daily trips away from hitting the pre-pandemic numbers, and daily trips have doubled in the past year.

9. New Business

Mr. Gonzales updated the Committee on the new vehicle purchase. A few different styles of vehicles were brought out to the Transit Maintenance Facility where the ADA Committee was present for the presentation of the vehicles. All new vehicles will have lifts on the rear for easier wheelchair loading. Transit will be replacing a total of twelve vehicles.

10. ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Members Comments

Isabel Huerta inquired regarding drivers having gate codes when being picking up.

Eric Molina responded and explained codes have to be provided to Dial-A-Ride to be put in the passengers profile notes for the drivers. If drivers do not have the gate codes they contact the transit dispatchers for the information.

Ruth Lauro mentioned that dispatchers are still not notifying her when the vehicle is running later than the pick-up window.

Eric Molina responded and advised Ruth to contact the office when incidents occur to address the issue with the dispatchers at the time it happens.

Mayor Thomas inquired about digital advertisement on the outside of the Fixed Route buses.

Ben Gonzales commented that he will research and follow up in the next ADA Committee meeting.

11. ADA Paratransit Advisory Committee Coordinator's Report

No Report was submitted.

12. Adjournment: By consensus of the Committee present, the meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.