



## Tehachapi Receives Urban Greening Grant

The City of Tehachapi received an Urban Greening Grant funded by the California Natural Resources Agency in the amount of \$889,300. The Citywide Tree Planting & Stormwater Capture Project calls for trees to be planted on Valley Boulevard bike path from Curry toward the west along the Tehachapi Boulevard bike path, on Antelope Run from Highline Road to Tehachapi Boulevard and other areas. "The Urban Greening Program is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities," according to resources.ca.gov. Wood Architecture, a design consulting management company, will assist with landscape construction plans, administration and construction observation.



## Amtrak to Begin Offering New Bus Options



The San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority, which manages the Amtrak San Joaquins Thruway Bus Network, is adding bus service only on Route 12. Route 12 with stops in Bakersfield, Tehachapi, Mojave, Lancaster, Palmdale, Littlerock and Victorville had not been accepting passengers for bus-service only; customers had to purchase a train ticket to use the service. Now this service is available seven days-a-week, with two-daily north and southbound trips.

In 2019, Senate Bill 742 was amended so that Joint Power Authorities—San Joaquin, Capitol Corridor, and San Luis Obispo Rail—could transport passengers on Amtrak intercity buses without requiring them to have a train ticket. At this time, two routes are now amended for passenger bus-service only, Route 12 and Route 10 with stops in Bakersfield, Oxnard and Santa Barbara. More routes in California will be added in the future.

"This is a win-win for everybody and we are happy now to begin opening these routes for the communities to start using this service," said David Lipari, Marketing Manager for the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority. "We felt like there are a lot of communities within the throughway corridors that are underserved populations," he said. "They don't have enough necessarily local service between their communities and these communities would benefit from the service that is already running through their town, but is sort of restricted in access."

## High Speed Rail Wasco Viaduct

The Wasco Viaduct is being built on the south side of Wasco at Jackson Avenue. At the Wasco Viaduct, crews are drilling and placing shafts on the east side of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail line that will ultimately support a pergola allowing high-speed trains to pass over the existing freight tracks. Crews are now guiding cages down to connect to ground anchors. On the west side of the BNSF, 26 columns of the pergola section have been poured. This structure will be nearly a mile long when complete. In the center of town at the Wasco Viaduct, crews have poured a total of 32 columns to the west and 11 columns to the east side of the pergola structure.





## TRANSITIONS

The 2020 Transit Symposium “TRANSITIONS”, sponsored by Kern Council of Governments, is scheduled for Thursday, February 27 at Hodel’s Country Dining. Presentations are planned with the following individuals in mind:

- ◆ Transportation Service Providers such as Transit Agencies, Shuttle Services University Transportation Services, School Transportation Services etc.;
- ◆ Social Services; and
- ◆ City and County Governments.

The Draft Agenda includes a discussion of the Innovative Clean Transit Implementation Plan Rollout; Zero Emission Transit Experience—Planning for New Technology and Vehicles and Infrastructure; Zero Emission Transit Incentive Programs; Transit Federal and State Funding Programs; Transit Training Programs and a panel discussing MioCar, GET RYDE and CARB Clean Mobility Options Funding.

For reservations, contact Linda Urata at [lurata@kerncog.org](mailto:lurata@kerncog.org) or 661-635-2904.

## Upcoming Events

February 12, 2020 - LCTOP Workshop at Kern COG

March 5, 2020—2019 Regional Awards Ceremony at Seven Oaks Country Club

March 10 & 11, 2020 - Valley Voice Trip to Sacramento

March 25 & 26 - California Transportation Commission Meeting in Santa Barbara

April 29, 2020 - Joint CTC/CARB Meeting in Sacramento