



For Immediate Release:
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Contact:
Teresa Statler
Finance Director
(661) 763-1350

Taft and Maricopa Workshops to Shape Future of Local Transit

Taft, CA – The City of Taft, in partnership with Kern Council of Governments (KernCOG), is seeking public comment as part of the City's Transportation Development Plan. The goal of the Plan is two-fold: conduct an objective and comprehensive assessment of existing public transit services offered in Taft, and present practical strategies for addressing current and forecast demand for transit service. Included within the scope of this study is an analysis into the feasibility of introducing public transit services within Maricopa. Existing transit services within the study include Taft Area Transit (TAT), a general-public demand-response program, and the Westside Express, a fixed-route service operated by Kern Regional Transit (KRT). Currently there are no public transit service offerings in Maricopa.

As part of the public involvement process, community workshops will be held to give residents an opportunity to discuss their ideas and mobility priorities. The workshops will be used to accept feedback from the public regarding appropriate transit solutions for the respective areas. The TDP is a five-year plan that assists in allocating resources to address the issues concerning community access to public transit services.

Workshops in both Taft and Maricopa will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2009. The Taft community workshop will be held in Taft City Council Chambers on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at 11:15 AM. A light lunch will be served. Persons needing travel assistance to attend the community workshop may call (661) 763-3822.

The Maricopa community workshop will be held at Maricopa Gusher Hall at 1:00 PM. For additional information, please call (661) 769-8279.

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