



F O R I M M E D I A T E
R E L E A S E

Date: January 22, 2009

Contact: Michele Joseph
Director of Marketing

(520) 206-8810

SUN TRAN ANNOUNCES NEW EXPRESS SERVICE

TUCSON, Ariz. – Effective Monday, February 16, Sun Tran will launch new weekday rush-hour service from Oro Valley and Rita Ranch with funding provided by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA).

Routes 107X and 203X travel in the morning from Oro Valley to Downtown Tucson and the Aero Park area respectively, while making return trips in the afternoon. Route 110X travels to and from Rita Ranch and Downtown Tucson each morning and evening, enabling passengers to commute in either direction. Express routes traveling into downtown enable passengers to transfer to other locations, such as the University of Arizona.

For passenger convenience, Park-and-Ride lots have been established in Oro Valley on the southeast corner of Lambert Lane at Riverfront Park, as well as in Rita Ranch west of Houghton on Old Vail Road. Oro Valley passengers can expect the completion of an additional RTA-funded Park-and-Ride lot on Rancho Vistoso Boulevard this spring.

"We've received many requests from Oro Valley and Rita Ranch residents to provide bus service," said Katrina Heineking, Sun Tran's General Manager. "All of us at Sun Tran are excited to help the RTA launch the services as promised."

These new routes, as well as all other Sun Tran express routes will utilize new buses also funded by the RTA. These new buses provide commuters enhanced features for improved comfort, such as high-back cushioned seats, arm and footrests and heat-rejection glass to keep the buses cooler.

"It's important to get people out of their cars and onto public transit," said Heineking. "These new bus features will encourage people who have a choice about how they get to work, to hop on Sun Tran and enjoy a comfortable stress-free ride."

For more details or trip planning assistance on these new express routes, passengers can visit www.suntran.com, or call Sun Tran's Customer Service Center at (520) 792-9222 (for individuals with TDD equipment, call 520-628-1565). More information is also available in the Sun Tran *Ride Guide*, available February 2 on buses and at Sun Tran's administrative office, located at 4220 South Park Avenue. Distribution to over 500 locations, such as public libraries, major malls, transit centers, pass sales and information outlets throughout Tucson will begin the same day.

This transit enhancement program will be managed by the City of Tucson in partnership with the RTA, the Town of Oro Valley and Sun Tran. The RTA is the fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion plan approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006. The RTA Board is comprised of representatives from the local jurisdictions in Pima County, including the cities of Tucson and South Tucson, Pima County, the towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Tohono O'odham Nation. A representative of the Arizona State Transportation Board also serves on the board. For more information about the RTA plan, visit www.RTAmobility.com or call (520) 770-9410.