



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRANSIT SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS, BETTER SERVING UA

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), City of Tucson, Sun Tran and the University of Arizona Parking and Transportation Department offer a variety of transit services that benefit UA students, faculty and staff. Better connectivity throughout the region and convenient connections to the UA campus are provided by several transit options:

- Sun Tran, which provides bus service throughout the metropolitan region 365 days a year
- Sun Express, fast commuter transportation making limited stops from outlying areas to major destinations during weekday peak commuting hours
- Sun Shuttle, a neighborhood transit service providing connections to Sun Tran, funded by the RTA, with service in Marana, Oro Valley, Catalina, Sahuarita, Green Valley, San Xavier and Tucson Estates.
- Cat Tran, the UA's free campus shuttles operating Monday through Friday

UA Campus and surrounding areas

Cat Tran's seven routes enable mobility throughout the campus and link passengers to Sun Tran service, which provides easy access to shopping, restaurants and entertainment beyond the campus area.

“People are using Sun Tran to ride to campus, and then riding Cat Tran to get around campus,” said Glenn Grafton, UA Transit Program Coordinator and Shuttle Supervisor.

Sun Tran has 13 routes that serve the UA, with direct service to popular destinations such as downtown; Fourth Avenue; Tucson International Airport; Tucson Mall; Reid Park; and the east, west and downtown campuses of Pima Community College.

In the downtown area, more than 20 Sun Tran routes and Cat Tran’s USA Route serve the Ronstadt Transit Center, giving individuals from across the region the ability to transfer to campus. The USA Route connects downtown to the UA’s University Services Building, Main Gate Garage, Center for Computing and Information Technology (CCIT), Civil Engineering and the student union area.

Oro Valley and Marana

Last year, RTA funds contributed to additional express service from the northwest area of the region. Service was added to Route 103X, an express from Ina Road serving the UA Mall and University Medical Center, for a total of four trips in each direction. Route 107X, a new express service from Oro Valley to downtown was established with three morning trips and three afternoon trips.

Route 107X and six Sun Shuttle routes serving Oro Valley and Marana connect to Sun Tran service going into downtown Tucson, where passengers can then transfer to Cat Tran. For passenger convenience, park and ride lots have been established in Oro Valley at Innovation Park Drive and Ranch Vistoso Boulevard, and at Riverfront Park; as well as in Marana at Cortaro Road and Arizona Pavilions Drive.

Foothills and Northeast Tucson

On February 15, 2010, RTA funding will enable Sun Tran to launch an additional morning and afternoon trip each weekday on Route 109X serving Catalina Highway to the downtown-area. RTA funding also enabled Sun Tran to provide trips on Route 105X serving the UA on Speedway Boulevard, for a total of three trips in each direction. This route was extended to serve Sunrise Drive as far east as Kolb Road, providing more transit options for students, faculty and staff on the northeast side of Tucson to get to campus.

Green Valley and Sahuarita

There are three interconnecting Sun Shuttle routes that serve the Green Valley and Sahuarita area. Route 421 connects to the Ronstadt Transit Center, where passengers can then transfer to Cat Tran's USA Route or campus-bound Sun Tran routes to get to the UA. Passengers can utilize the park and ride lots located at the Sahuarita Town Hall and Green Valley Village for convenient boarding locations.

Southeast

On February 15, 2010, Route 101X serving Golf Links to the downtown-area will receive two additional morning and two afternoon trips each weekday with funding provided by the RTA. Sun Tran's Route 110X, also funded by the RTA, provides transportation connecting passengers from the southeast part of the region to downtown Tucson or from downtown to the UA Science and Technology Park. Again, passengers can transfer at the Ronstadt Transit Center to Cat Tran's USA Route or other campus-bound Sun Tran routes. A park and ride lot is available in Rita Ranch at Old Vail and Houghton roads.

Southwest

Sun Shuttle's San Xavier and Tucson Estates routes connect passengers to the Sun Tran system at the Laos Transit Center, where passengers can access service to downtown Tucson and UA.

Discounted Fares for UA

The U-Pass program, created through a partnership between Sun Tran and UA, offers a convenient and inexpensive transportation option. To encourage the use of alternate modes, the UA pays up to 50 percent of the cost of a Sun Tran U-Pass for students, faculty and staff. The U-Pass allows passengers to ride Sun Tran, Sun Express and Sun Shuttle, depending on which pass is purchased. Spring semester passes are now available for \$71, which is a \$70 discount for students, faculty and staff. Express U-Passes good for the spring semester, are available for \$85, an \$84 discount for students and employees. To buy a discounted U-Pass online, visit www.parking.arizona.edu or visit the Parking & Transportation office at 1117 E. Sixth Street.

Sun Tran and Sun Shuttle passengers are advised to visit www.suntran.com, or call Sun Tran's Customer Service Center at (520) 792-9222 (for persons with hearing and speech impairments, call TDD: 520-628-1565) for specific route times and bus information.

Cat Tran passengers are advised to visit <http://parking.arizona.edu> or call 626-PARK for details on Cat Tran routes and schedules

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