



Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority

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national express

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 9, 2014

National Express

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NATIONAL EXPRESS TO OPERATE YUMA COUNTY AREA TRANSIT SERVICE IN AUGUST

YUMA, AZ (August 9, 2014) - The Board of Directors for the Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (YCIPTA) in Yuma, Arizona have unanimously awarded a three-year base term contract to National Express Transit Services Corporation for the management, operations, and maintenance of its Yuma County Area Transit (YCAT) system. The contract has a three year base which also includes seven additional one-year option years, bringing the total possible term to 10 years.

YCAT services that National Express will be operating include 11 fixed routes throughout southwestern Yuma County including the cities of Yuma, San Luis, Somerton, Town of Wellton, Cocopah Indian Reservation and unincorporated communities of Yuma County, including Gadsden, Fortuna Foothills, and Ligurta. YCAT also provides service into Winterhaven and El Centro, CA and on the Quechan/Fort Yuma Indian Reservation. The service includes the operation and maintenance of 25 vehicles and National Express will employ approximately 32 full-time and 4 part-time employees.

Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority Board Of Directors

Robert L. Pickles, Chairman - Yuma County, Greg Wilkinson, Vice Chairman - City of Yuma
Dr. Larry Gould - Northern Arizona University, Dr. Glenn Mayle - Arizona Western College,
Ralph Velez - City of San Luis, Brian Golding, Sr - Quechan Indian Tribe, Paul Soto - Cocopah Indian Tribe,
Richard Watenpaugh - Town of Wellton, Bill Lee - City of Somerton

John Andoh, Transit Director

Since 2000, Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization and now YCIPTA has been contracting the operations and maintenance of the YCAT system to third party organizations and companies. CIPTA has found contracting is the most effective way of providing this service due to low cost, less risk and using tools of a larger corporation to support a smaller operation.

"YCIPTA is looking forward to a new relationship with National Express and hopes to provide the residents of Yuma County a world class transit system and the contractor employees a happier place of work with less stress and controversy" stated John Andoh, Transit Director. "National Express has selected a great local management team that understands the issues and concerns and promises to foster a good relationship and take care of their new employees" said Andoh.

According to National Express Vice President for Operations Mark Foster, the transition to National Express' provision of the service is scheduled to occur no later than September 1, 2014, but may occur as early as August 25, 2014, if all mobilization efforts can be accelerated safely and feasibly. "We know how important the reliability of the YCAT service is to the people who use the buses every day, so we are working diligently to get all the pieces into place for a successful start-up of service as soon as possible," said Foster.

For YCAT transit information and YCAT OnCall reservations call 928-783-2235. Interested parties can also visit the YCAT online at www.ycat.az.gov.

About National Express: National Express Transit Corporation was established with the sole purpose of providing best-in-class fixed route, demand response, commuter, shuttle, and ADA paratransit solutions for public-sector clients. As a member of the National Express Group of worldwide companies, National Express Transit Corporation has access to global resources for passenger transportation best practices. National Express Group employs more than 42,000 people worldwide across its bus, rail, and coach divisions that operate throughout Europe and North America. The contract with YCIPTA represents National Express' first transit operations contract in the State of Arizona.

About Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority

YCIPTA is the public transportation provider for Yuma County, formed as an intergovernmental public transportation authority as defined in the Arizona Revised Statutes by the Yuma County Board of Supervisors, YCIPTA is governed by a nine member Board of Directors consisting of all of the municipalities, the County government, Indian tribes and higher educational institution in Yuma County. 480,000 passengers' trips were made on YCAT buses in FY 2014. YCIPTA operates, maintains and administers Yuma County Area Transit (YCAT) fixed route, deviated fixed route, vanpool and paratransit services and contracts services to Transportation Concepts of Irvine, CA, vRide of Troy, MI and Enterprise Rideshare of Tempe, AZ. See where it takes you at www.ycat.az.gov or call 928.783.2235.

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