

MCAAG APPOINTS 2021 ANNA MARIA FUENTES SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Last month, the MCAG Governing Board appointed Livingston High School senior, Lauryn Franzese the 2021 Anna Maria Fuentes scholarship recipient.

The MCAG Board established the scholarship program in 2010 in memory and tribute to MCAG grants analyst, Anna Maria Fuentes.

The scholarship, in it's eleventh year, continues to be funded by staff donations and is awarded annually to a graduating high school senior from a high school in Merced County with a grade point average of 3.8 or higher and who has demonstrated a high level of participation in extracurricular activities.

Ms. Franzese was selected for her tremendous academic achievements which includes the A' honor roll, AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award, and her participation in extracurricular activities such as California Scholars Federation, Wolves Wellness Club, FFA, Washington Leadership Conference and the National Delegate representing California in FFA, as well as Student Government, Volleyball and track. Ms. Franzese plans to attend Stanford University in the Fall and pursue a degree in Biology and Business.

On behalf of the Fuentes family and the MCAG team we would like to congratulate Lauryn for all of her hard work and accomplishments!

For more information about the scholarship please visit: www.mcagov.org/Scholarship.



THE BUS LAUNCHES MICRO TRANSIT IN WEST SIDE COMMUNITIES

The Bus is launching a pilot micro transit service in the communities on the west side of Merced County beginning Saturday, May 1, 2021. The service, called The Micro Bus, is a shared, on-demand, public transit system that provides passengers transportation within the communities of Los Banos, Dos Palos, Gustine, and Santa Nella. Passengers in these areas can select from a network of 'virtual stops' in their community for pick up and drop off, along with their preferred departure time.

Passengers can see all of the virtual stop locations and book a ride on The Micro Bus by downloading the app on their smart phone for free, going online at www.mercedthebus.com/themicrobus, or by calling The Bus' customer service line at: (209) 725-3813. Reservations are required. Fares are \$1.50 per ride and can be paid when booking a ride on the app, or with cash on the bus. Seniors, Veterans and ADA-eligible passengers pay a discounted rate of 75 cents and may be eligible for curb-to-curb service. All fares include free transfers to the Los Banos (LB) fixed-route for those passengers looking to travel between the west side communities or to Merced.

The Micro Bus will operate Monday to Fridays from 6:00am to 7:30pm and on the weekends from 8:00am to 5:30pm. Passengers needing to transport their bicycle on The Micro Bus should select that option in the app at time of reservation or by alerting the customer service representative with they call to book a ride. All vehicles used by The Micro Bus are wheelchair accessible.



MAY MEETINGS & EVENTS

- 05/01** Launch The Micro Bus - Westside of the County
- 05/04 - 05/07** Virtual One Voice Meetings
- 05/07** CAC meeting, 8:30 am
- 05/10** YARTS Highway 41 Summer Service begins
- 05/12** Technical Review Board meeting, 12:00 pm
- 05/17** Highway 140 & 120 YARTS Summer Service begins
- 05/20** Governing Board meeting, 3:00 pm
- 05/21** Bike to Work Day!
- 05/31** Memorial Day - MCAG office closed

Please note: All MCAG meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice. The call-in number and passcode will be located on the cover of each agenda. To access the agendas for the meetings listed, please visit: www.mcagov.org/agendacenter

For more information about these meetings, please contact Eva Garibay at: eva.garibay@mcagov.org



HIGHWAY 59 LANDFILL

7040 N. Highway 59
Merced, CA 95348
Phone: 209-723-4481

Monday - Saturday
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

BILLY WRIGHT LANDFILL

17173 S Billy Wright Road
Los Banos, CA 95348
Phone: 209-826-1163

Monday - Saturday:
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

For more information about Regional Waste Authority please visit: www.mcrwma.org or download the 'Merced Recycles' app on the App store and Google play.



YARTS TO BEGIN SUMMER SERVICE

YARTS will transition to its summer schedule for the Merced/Mariposa service and will begin service from Sonora on May 17, 2021. Summer service from Fresno will begin on May 10, 2021 with the Mammoth Lakes corridor commencing on June 15.

In order to promote social distancing, capacity on all buses continues to be reduced to a maximum of 30 passengers each. Therefore, reservations are highly encouraged. YARTS reservations include your park entry, no additional Day-use reservations issued by the National Park Service will be required for YARTS passengers

For more information or general questions about YARTS, and to view the seasonal schedules, please visit www.yarts.com or call (877)989-2787.

WIN BIG WITH BIKE MONTH BINGO AND DIBS THIS MONTH!

May is National Bike to Work Month and each year Dibs partners with member agencies and local organizations to promote and celebrate biking. Dibs encourages commuters to consider a different travel option and celebrates small steps to include biking

and walking anywhere – to the store, mailbox, coffee shop or around the block. Residents of San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced counties can walk, bike, and bingo to win more than \$1,000 in prizes. Participants can use the Bike Month Bingo card as a guide and inspiration for biking and walking. Each square has a prompt to get a person moving — a simple coffee run, a 3-mile trek, or biking or walking with a friend or pet.

Participants must register on dibstrips.com. Participants can log their biking or walking trips throughout May and email maynard@sjcog.org completed Bike Month Bingo cards to win prizes. Trips can be logged via dibstrips.com or through the Commute Tracker by RideAmigos app .



MeasureV

MAY 2021 - UPDATE

Measure V, Merced County's ½ cent transportation sales tax, was passed by Merced County voters with 71% approval in November 2016. In an effort to keep the community informed about this transformative 30 year measure, MCAG will feature monthly updates in this newsletter. You can also visit:

www.mcagov.org/measureV for the latest!

The third installment of *On the moVe* – the annual Measure V report to the community - has been unveiled on the Measure V website. Measure V, the half-cent sales tax collected in Merced County for the improvement of local transportation infrastructure, has been in place since April 1, 2017. The Measure V Citizens Oversight Committee marks the anniversary with a showcase of the projects used by this dedicated funding during the previous fiscal year.

This 2021 report has been released online at: www.mcagov.org/onthemove and focuses on the transportation infrastructure work conducted between July 2019 – June 2020. The report includes projects completed with local, regional, and transit funding generated by Measure V. The split of revenue for each of these categories was determined by Merced County voters in 2016 and is set for the duration of the 30-year Measure. Half of all Measure V revenue goes directly to the cities of Atwater, Dos Palos, Gustine, Livingston, Los Banos, and Merced, along with the County of Merced, to pay for local transportation projects; of this share, the jurisdictions must use 20 percent on alternative transportation projects such as sidewalks and bike lanes. Regional transportation projects located on both the east and west sides of the county receive 44 percent of the Measure V dollars with another five percent going toward public transit. Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) receives one percent of the funding for administrative work related to Measure V.

In addition to both English and Spanish versions of the report, the public can also find additional work happening in each Merced County community by viewing the slideshow and interactive map on the website. Hard copies of the *On the moVe* report is available to the public at each of the six city halls, the County Administration building, and MCAG office.

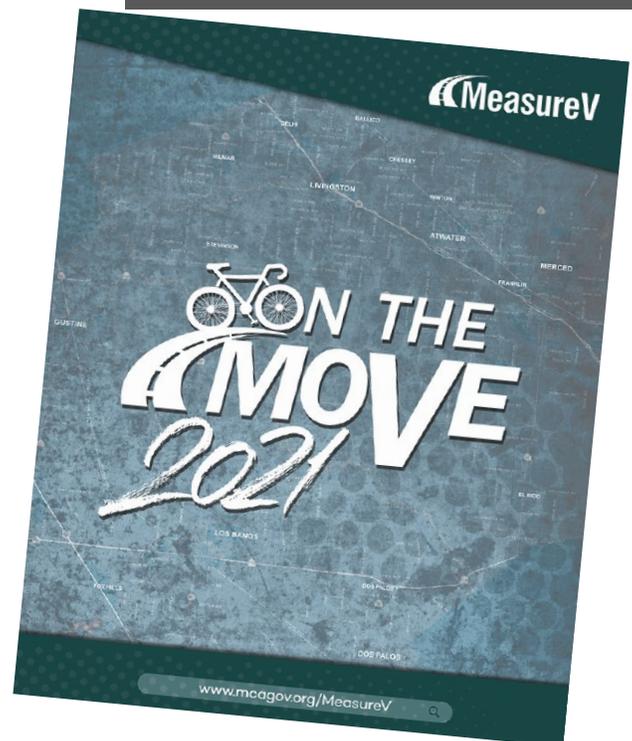
HAVE YOU SPOTTED MEASURE V AT WORK IN MERCED COUNTY?

Snap a picture and send it to measurev@mcagov.org or tag us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

@mcag_merced

or use the hashtag

#MeasureV_mcag



CONTACT:

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THE MICRO BUS HAS ARRIVED



- ON-DEMAND SERVICE
- VIRTUAL STOPS EVERY 1/4 MILE
- SERVICE IN LOS BANOS, SANTA NELLA, GUSTINE AND DOS PALOS



Download App



Create Profile



Book and Ride



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

Or search for "The MicroBus"



THE MICRO BUS HA LLEGADO



- SERVICIO BAJO DEMANDA
- PARADA VIRTUAL CADA 1/4 DE MILLA
- SERVICIO EN LOS BANOS, SANTA NELLA, GUSTINE Y DOS PALOS



Descarga la aplicación



Crea un perfil



Reserve y viaje



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App Store



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Google Play

○ busque "The MicroBus"

