FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

 Monday, Oct. 30, 2017

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VCTC to Launch New East-West Connector Bus Service on Nov. 10

Free rides offered during first week of operation, Nov. 10-17

Ventura, Calif. – On Nov. 10, the <u>Ventura County Transportation Commission</u> (VCTC) will open the East-West Connector, the first fixed-route transit service between Simi Valley, Moorpark and West Ventura County.

To celebrate the launch, VCTC will offer free rides on the new bus line during its first week of operation, Nov. 10-17.

The East-West Connector will serve the cities of Simi Valley, Moorpark, Camarillo, Oxnard and Ventura using Highways 118, 34 and 101. Buses will operate between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. on weekdays.

"The East-West Connector provides an important link in our county's public transportation infrastructure," said Darren Kettle, VCTC's executive director. "It improves access to key employment centers, educational institutions and health care facilities as well as to the Ventura County Government Center."

With the launch of the Connector, students and faculty will enjoy a one-seat trip between Ventura College and Moorpark College. In addition, the service makes access to CSUCI's campus easier and faster for East County students by eliminating a transfer in Thousand Oaks.

"East County residents will have the ability to ride the bus to the Ventura County Government Center in time for an 8 a.m. jury summons," said Peter Foy, VCTC Commissioner and Ventura County Supervisor for District 4, which includes Simi Valley and Moorpark. "This increased mobility is especially important for our region's seniors and residents with disabilities."

Full-price fare for the East-West Connector will be \$1.25; riders eligible for discounted fares will pay \$0.60. Discounted fares will also be available for riders who purchase multi-day and multi-ride passes. Free transfers are offered to other VCTC Intercity bus lines as well as local fixed-route providers such as Simi Valley Transit, Moorpark Transit and Gold Coast Transit.

Passengers can learn more at <u>www.GoVentura.org</u> or by calling the VCTC Regional Transit Information Center at 800.438.1112.

About the Ventura County Transportation Commission

The Ventura County Transportation Commission is the regional transportation planning agency committed to keeping Ventura County moving. Program information is available at goventura.org.