

### **VCTC Outreach Report**

July 2025 Darrin Peschka

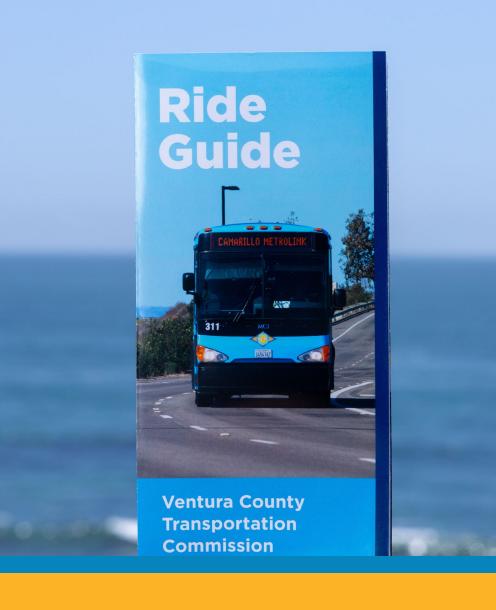
VCTC

**Program Manager, Government and Community Relations** 

#### 24/25 Outreach Initiatives

VCTC's impact in Ventura County

- Coastal Express Electric Bus
- Spanish Outreach
- Freeway Service Patrol
- Events
- Tap2Ride
- Bike, Transit, Carpool & More
- Regional Ticket Transfers
- Free Fare Days
- Amtrak/Metrolink Codeshare
- Boys & Girls Club Art Contest
- Annual Community Impact Report





### Coastal Express Electric Bus

#### New buses to make a splash from Camarillo to Goleta

- All-electric bus offers a cleaner, quieter ride, reducing air pollution along the coastal route
- Once running, VCTC will develop a campaign to spotlight the bus and promote ridership
- Showcases the rich biodiversity of the coastal region it serves

### Buenas Campaign Drives Engagement

Speaking to riders in their language, their way

- Continued strong and consistent impact with new card designs featuring popular destinations and real people playing the game
- Since the campaign's launch in June 2022, Spanish-speaking traffic to the site has grown 187% when comparing the first half of the campaign to the second—indicating strong, sustained momentum over the past three years.
- Continues to impress the transit community and deeply resonate with Spanish-speaking families





### FSP: Protecting Drivers, Earning Trust

Freeway Service Patrol campaign drives awareness—and real impact

- Over 2.3K social media clicks (and counting) from locals eager to learn more
- Timely messaging countered scam tow operations with clarity and confidence
- Videos on truck identification, service areas, and cost (free!) resonated strongly with the public







#### **Community Connections in Action**

#### **Engagement at local events**

- Santa Paula Wellness Fair
- Banana Festival
- Ventura College Earth Day
- Santa Paula Earth Day
- Fillmore Earth Day
- Simi Valley Wellness Expo
- Thousand Oaks Arbor Earth Day
- Oxnard Bike Rodeo



















# Launching Tap2Ride with Impact

#### New payment options, easier bus rides

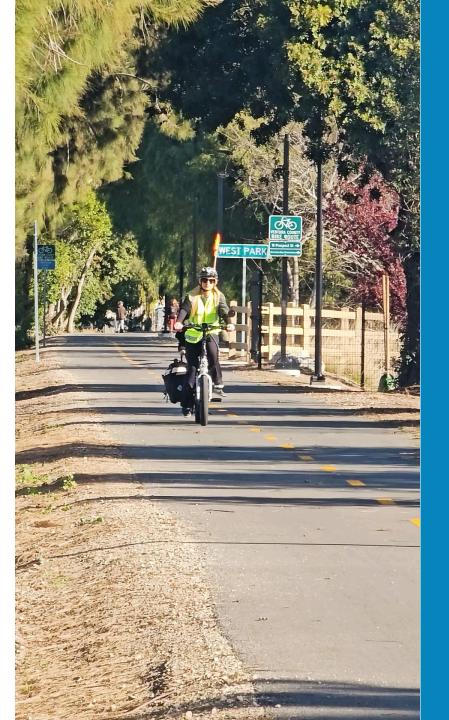
- Developed and launched a cohesive, branded campaign across print, digital, and social media to encourage non-riders to "give it a try"
- Created a dedicated landing page and teaser campaign to build early awareness
- Developing tailored toolkits and comprehensive outreach for a unified, county-wide launch



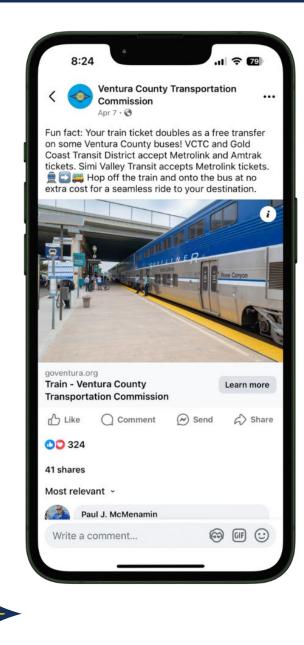
#### Promoting Rideshare Year-Round

Ongoing campaigns promote bike, transit, carpool, and more!

- Rideshare Week campaign boosted reach by 41%, earning over 115K impressions and 163 pledges
- Consistent bike ads continued momentum post-campaign, showcasing scenic rides in Ventura County
- Bike Month campaign features engaging videos and strong emphasis on e-biking benefits, driving 350 pledges







### Transferring to the Bus Made Easy

#### **Train ticket allows free bus connections**

- Social media content highlighted the ease of using your Metrolink or Amtrak ticket to connect to the bus for free
- Consistent organic and boosted content steadily increased awareness and engagement for the transfer connection service
- Boosted social media posts reached 43K Instagram/Facebook users

### **Continuing Success with Five Free Fare Days**

Campaign encourages Ventura County to "leave your car behind and try transit"

- Social media promotion received 126 shares and counting
- Created a dedicated car card to be placed in all buses across the county for Transit Equity in honor of Rosa Parks
- Campaign saw a 23% increase in impressions on social media ads compared to last fiscal year





## Amplifying Codeshare with Real Voices

#### User-Generated Content highlights customer experiences

- Authentic content boosted credibility and engagement (outperforming branded content)
- English and Spanish ads promoted the Metrolink and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner Codeshare in Ventura, LA, and Santa Barbara Counties.
- Campaign collected a total of 327 shares and 575k+ impressions across Meta and TikTok (and counting)







### Youth Art Celebrates Transit Connections

#### Theme: Exploring Ventura County by bus

- 6th annual contest connects the county through youth creativity
- Winning artwork featuring transit from local clubs displayed on VCTC buses
- This tradition strengthens youth engagement, building early connections to transit and fostering local pride
- Contest to continue in FY 25/26





#### VCTC Delivers Annual Report to the Community

#### **Reports illustrating the power of partnerships share how VCTC serves Ventura County**

- Shared meaningful progress and success stories across Ventura County
- Highlighted community voices, strategic partnerships, and ridership impact
- Presented in a compelling, easy-to-understand format for the public



#### On the Horizon

- Tap2Ride Regional Launch
- Coastal Express Schedule
  Change
- Electric Buses









Ventura County Transportation Commission



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