



# UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS FACT SHEET

## What is the Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) process?

Each year, according to TDA law, VCTC is required to identify any unmet transit needs in the Ventura region. The UTN process is required in counties, such as Ventura, where local street and road projects are eligible for TDA funding. Since the priority for TDA funds is transit, the UTN process was developed to ensure that reasonable unmet transit needs are funded before TDA funds are spent on streets and roads. Beginning in July 2014, only the cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, and Santa Paula are eligible to use TDA funds for streets and roads pursuant to State law. However, VCTC works collaboratively with other transit providers to invite feedback from the public for all transit service in the county so that the Commission can work to develop policies that improve service delivery.

## What is the Transportation Development Act *and why does it matter to Ventura County?*

In 1971, the Transportation Development Act (TDA) was enacted by California's Legislature to improve transit service and surface transportation in communities across the state. TDA law provides funding through VCTC to be allocated to transit and non-transit purposes. To that end, the TDA provides two important funding sources for transportation in Ventura County:

1. Local Transportation Fund (LTF): derived from one-quarter of one-cent of general sales tax revenues collected in Ventura County; and
2. State Transit Assistance Fund (STA): derived from statewide sales taxes on diesel fuel.

VCTC allocates STA funds to the various parts of the county for the purpose of providing transit and rail service. Under TDA law, VCTC may use LTF funds for non-transit purposes, such as streets and roads, if it can be demonstrated that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet. TDA law matters to Ventura County because, without additional state or federal assistance, it is the primary source of funds for public transit and local road improvements.



# What happens during the UTN process?

## NOV-DEC

VCTC adopts schedule and definitions for the annual process

## JAN-FEB

Public workshops and 1 public hearing are held to collect public feedback

## FEB-APR

VCTC staff analyzes comments and data to determine if unmet needs exist

## MAY

The Commission approves recommendations/findings

## JUNE

The Commission approves the allocation of STA funds for transit and any eligible LTF funds for streets and roads

## What is the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC)?

VCTC is the regional transportation planning agency for Ventura County. Our mission is to keep Ventura County moving! If you drive, take transit, bike or walk in Ventura County, chances are, VCTC has helped you do it. By working in close partnership with each of the cities and the County, VCTC is ever mindful of maintaining the character of Ventura County while prioritizing transportation investments.

As the operator of VCTC Intercity Transit, VCTC is a federally recognized regional transit provider and as well as a major contributor to Metrolink throughout Ventura County.

## VCTC Represents:

- County of Ventura
- City of Ventura
- City of Santa Paula
- City of Fillmore
- City of Moorpark
- City of Simi Valley
- City of Ojai
- City of Oxnard
- City of Port Hueneme
- City of Camarillo
- City of Thousand Oaks
- Caltrans

