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# MEDIA RELEASE

## VICTOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

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### **VVTA awarded CalACT Outstanding Coordination Award**

**Hesperia, Calif. (May 25, 2017)** – Victor Valley Transit Authority was awarded Outstanding Coordination Effort Award of the Year by the California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT), the largest state transit association in the United States. The award was presented at the CalACT 2017 Spring Conference and Expo in Lake Tahoe, California CalACT's annual awards event where the association honors transit agencies that has made positive contributions to transportation and other CalACT members. Accepting the award was VVTA CTSA Director, Aaron Moore.

"This award is testament to the value VVTA delivers to its community," said San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Chair and VVTA Board Member, Robert Lovingood. "Although a small agency, VVTA continues making a real-world difference in the lives of those it serves."

A driving force behind the award, the VVTA Mobility department launched in 2012, moving beyond traditional fixed route transit solutions to a strategic approach of coordinating services with nonprofits and other transportation agencies. VVTA compounded its network of success stories, when it transitioned to a Consolidated Transportation Service Agency in 2015. The agency has since launched thriving programs that serve traditional transit's most difficult-to-reach rural areas of the county.

"From its volunteer driver programs in Trona and Big River to its innovative Needles Carshare and Victor Valley College Ram Pass student transportation programs, VVTA's success is realized through the education, career, and life-improvement opportunities delivered to its community members, including its students, seniors, and veterans," Lovingood said.

With students traveling up to 50-miles roundtrip to Victor Valley College, the VVC Ram Pass helps students overcome the financial burden of commuting to college by providing unlimited transportation on VVTA's fixed route bus system, when using their student ID. The program logged 318,000 VVC student trips last fiscal year and is credited with connecting students to higher education who could not otherwise afford a ride.

In Needles, a city that lacks a supermarket and many health services, the CTSA was integral in launching the VVTA Carshare program. Life-essential services across the Colorado River in Bullhead City, Arizona are not available by scheduled local bus service. For just five dollars per hour (including fuel and insurance), residents may now use the micro-rental service to access shopping, medical, and educational services across the river.

"The VVTA Board of Directors has demonstrated great leadership and latitude, encouraging a culture of 'out of the box' thinking at VVTA," said VVTA Executive Director, Kevin Kane. "The VVTA Board is committed to providing innovative services that have a deep positive impact on improving the lives of the citizens it serves."

#### **About Victor Valley Transit Authority**

Victor Valley Transit Authority (VVTA) is a public transit agency and Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA), providing bus, ADA paratransit, and vanpool service to California's High Desert. VVTA's service area spans nearly 1,000 square miles, featuring service to Adelanto, Apple Valley, Barstow, Hesperia, Needles, Victorville and unincorporated San Bernardino County, including Daggett, Helendale, Hinkley, Lucerne Valley, Newberry Springs, Oak Hills, Oro Grande, Phelan, Pinon Hills, Wrightwood, and Yermo. Commuter service to Fort Irwin National Training Center (NTC) and connecting service from the High Desert to the Inland Empire is also provided. Additional information and service alerts are available at [VVTA.org](http://VVTA.org) and [Twitter.com/VVTransit](https://twitter.com/VVTransit).



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#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

Fidel Gonzales  
Victor Valley Transit Authority  
17150 Smoke Tree Street, Hesperia, CA 92345  
Office Phone: (760) 995-3592 / Mobile: (760) 617-1217

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