

Memorandum



Public Works

DATE: April 30, 2009

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Carlos de Leon, Deputy Public Works Manager, Transportation (350-8527)

THROUGH: Glenn Kephart, Public Works Manager (350-8205)

SUBJECT: **Issue Review Session 05/07/09: July 4 Transit Service**

At the Council Issue Review Session (IRS) on May 7, staff will be presenting information on transit options for the July 4th Tempe Town Lake Festival Fireworks Spectacular. As has been past practice, free bus service will be provided all day on July 4th. However, light rail, which is controlled regionally, will not be free. Staff will do extensive community outreach to communicate this information to the public including providing information on the city's web site and in the June water bill.

Bus Service

Free bus service in Tempe will be provided on July 4th. Most Tempe bus routes will operate every 15 minutes to the Mill Avenue District until 8 p.m. with return service until midnight. Many downtown Tempe bus and Orbit routes will drop off and pick up at the Tempe Transportation Center on the northeast corner of Fifth Street and Forest Avenue. Due to street restrictions, several downtown Tempe routes will be detoured to connect with light rail and will not serve their normal stops. If residents choose to then transfer to the light rail, they will be required to pay the normal fare. Residents will be encouraged to take advantage of the following park-and-ride locations:

- Tempe Marketplace – Orbit Earth to downtown; Route 81 (McClintock) to Apache and McClintock LRT Station
- Tempe Sports Complex – Route 62 (Hardy) to downtown
- Tempe Library Complex – Orbit Jupiter to downtown
- Arizona Mills Mall – Route 56 (Priest) to Priest and Washington LRT Station; Route 92 (Gaudalupe/48th Street) to downtown

Light Rail Service

Residents and visitors may park at one of the designated light rail park-and-ride locations and ride the train for \$1.75 per trip, per person. Riders are also encouraged to purchase an all-day pass for \$3.50 at the start of their trip to avoid having to use busy fare vending machines in the downtown area at the end of the event. (Reduced all day passes are available for \$1.75 for youth, people age 65 and older and people with disabilities.) Light rail will run every 15 minutes between 6 a.m. and midnight. Light Rail park-and-ride locations include:

- Apache Boulevard and Price Road

- Apache Boulevard and McClintock Drive
- Apache Boulevard and Dorsey Lane