

County Connection

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County Connection Offers a Year of Free Rides on Routes 11, 14, and 16
Agency puts greenhouse gas reduction fund dollars to work.

CONCORD, CA – County Connection is offering free rides on three of its weekday bus routes – Routes 11, 14, and 16 – as part of a one-year pilot program starting on Monday, July 1, 2019. All three routes serve the Monument Corridor in Concord and connect from Concord BART to various destinations in Martinez, Pleasant Hill, and Walnut Creek, including BART stations, Martinez Amtrak and Contra Costa Regional Medical Center.

The pilot project is being funded by a grant through California’s Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), which distributes cap-and-trade proceeds to support a wide range of programs and projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and deliver other economic, environmental, and public health benefits for Californians. LCTOP is one of several programs that are a part of the Transit, Affordable Housing, and Sustainable Communities Program established by the California Legislature in 2014 by Senate Bill 862.

“The goal of LCTOP is to assist transit agencies in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving mobility, with a priority of benefitting low-income and disadvantaged communities,” said County Connection General Manager Rick Ramacier. “County Connection, along with many other transit agencies, has worked with state legislators to ensure grant guidelines reflect actual needs. We are grateful for recent revisions that have made this pilot program possible.”

County Connection officials hope the free ride pilot program will encourage more community members to try Routes 11, 14, and 16 and make transit more affordable for grant-eligible communities. Together, the three routes currently carry an average of 1,600 daily passengers.

All County Connection riders can get real-time arrival information and track bus locations by downloading the Transit app, available for iPhone and Android phones, or by visiting *countyconnection.com*. Riders also can take advantage of the availability of free Wi-Fi aboard County Connection buses.

About County Connection

County Connection operates fixed-route and paratransit bus service throughout the communities of Concord, Pleasant Hill, Martinez, Walnut Creek, Clayton, Lafayette, Orinda, Moraga, Danville, San Ramon, as well as unincorporated communities in Central Contra Costa County. For assistance or for more information on bus routes, please visit *countyconnection.com* or call Customer Service at (925) 676-7500.

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