

# Yucaipa / Calimesa News Mirror

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Concerts in the Park are welcomed by a happy crowd — Page 13



Housing Element implementation goes to city council — Page 2

'Aladdin Jr.' on stage at Yucaipa Little Theatre — Page 16

## Ribbons and plaques mark official opening

By NOELLE KIELY  
Staff Reporter

The Yucaipa Transit Center located behind the Sheriff Station and Library, is officially operational following a grand

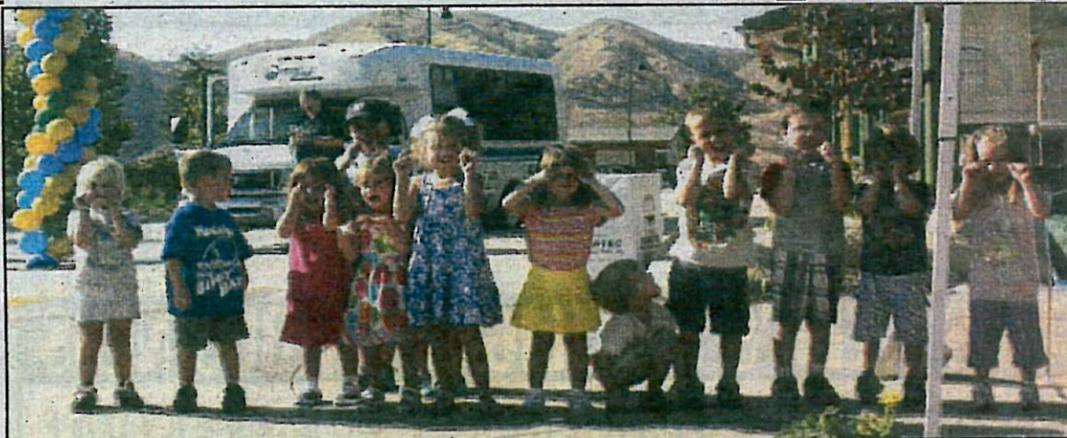


opening program held on Monday, July 12.

Yucaipa City Manager Ray Casey welcomed the crowd of city staff, Omnitrans officials and various project partners. "This project has been five years in the making and we've had a great partnership with Mantras putting this project together," Casey said. "I want to thank council for their vision and for delivering it to the community. This transit center infrastructure is unparalleled in San Bernardino County for a community our size."

Casey reported the project was "almost entirely funded by grants," and that the results of other development throughout the city including bike trails and new sidewalks, "emanate

Buster the Bus welcomed guests to the grand opening program.



Yucaipa Christian School preschoolers performed, "The Wheels on the Bus," to the delight of the crowd.

from this location." Yucaipa Mayor Dick Riddell who also has served on the Board of Directors for Omnitrans for the past 15 years

said, "Projects like this just don't happen by themselves. Funding is one of the most important aspects when considering a project such as this

transit center and through cooperation with Omnitrans we were able to secure funding."

The total cost of the project See Transit Center, Page 3

## Calimesa adopts its Downtown Business District

By BILL BROWN  
Staff Reporter

**Pedestrian-friendly downtown area along Calimesa Boulevard**

**New plan goes into effect July 21**

retail and mixed-use development in a downtown setting," said Romo.

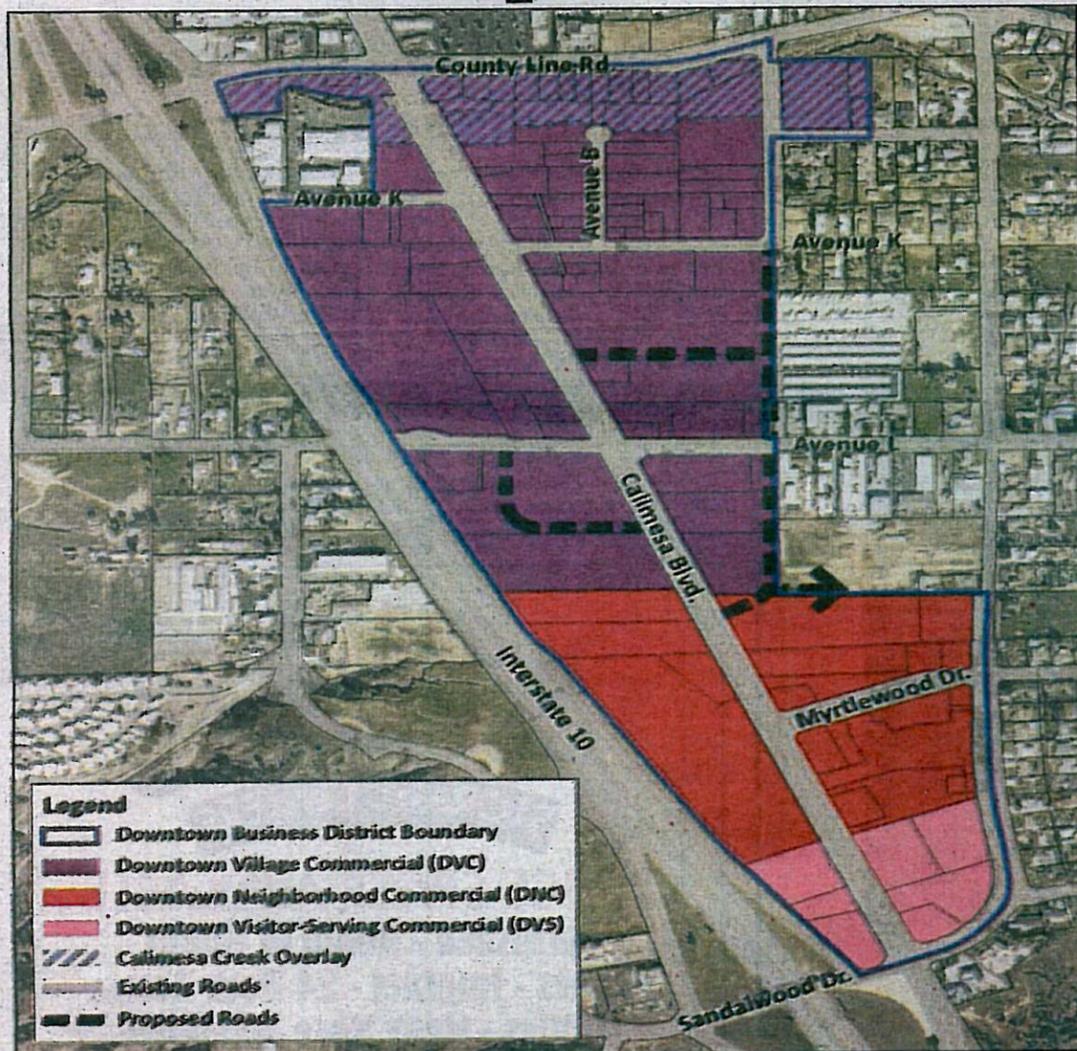
The committee came up with new goals and objectives and submitted an application for a Compass Blueprint Grant demonstration project associated with a main street and downtown, which is offered and awarded annually by the Southern California Association of Governments.

In 2008, the City was awarded the grant and selected a consultant to update the existing Calimesa Boulevard Corridor Plan.

Just before obtaining this grant, the City contracted with another consultant (DMC) to initiate the street improvement plans for the district as a separate project. When the SCAG consultant (i.e., The Planning Center) came on board, city staff held a joint meeting with The Planning Center, DMC and the Ad Hoc Committee to coordinate efforts.

On March 5, 2009, a joint meeting was held before the Ad Hoc Committee to present the

See Calimesa, Page 3



Proposed roads and the Downtown Business District zones



Omnitrans CEO Milo Victoria, Yucaipa Councilwoman Denise Hoyt, Yucaipa Mayor/Omnitrans Board of Directors Member Dick Riddell, Highland Mayor/Omnitrans Board of Directors Chair Penny Lilburn, Yucaipa Councilwoman Diane Smith, San Bernardino Mayor Patrick Morris and Yucaipa Councilman Tom Masner cut the ribbon to mark the opening of the Transit Center.



Omnitrans CEO Milo Victoria, San Bernardino Mayor Patrick Morris, Highland Mayor/Omnitrans Board of Directors Chair Penny Lilburn, Yucaipa Mayor/Omnitrans Board of Directors Member Dick Riddell, Yucaipa Council members Denise Hoyt, Diane Smith and Tom Masner gather after the unveiling of the dedication plaque.

### Transit Center, continued from Page 1

was about \$2.5 million, with \$110,000 funded by the city of Yucaipa, \$233,600 funded by Omnitrans, \$35,000 funded by San Bernardino County and the balance paid for through grants.

"This project, which has been six years in the making since we entered a partnership with Omnitrans and it could not have happened without the cooperation of my fellow board members," Riddell said. He described the center as "functional and blends in with the surrounding park-like setting."

The transit center has eight bus bays, shelters, benches a locked restroom facility for bus staff, a clock, water features and decorative lighting.

The Transit Center was designed to have access to other community facilities and features two routes to and from Mentone, Redlands, San Bernardino and Yucaipa with Omnitrans dial-a-ride service.

OmniGo Circular route 308/309 will be added in September and offer a loop from the Transit Center with stops at the Scherer Senior Community

Center, the Yucaipa Post Office, the Norton Younglove Senior Center in Calimesa, shopping areas and medical facilities within the city. OmniGo will run every thirty minutes, seven days a week.

More than 80 departures will be offered when the transit center is fully operational in September.

Omnitrans CEO/General Manager Milo Victoria said, "Every time I see this project, I'm in awe." Victoria explained that routes eight and nine will enhance Omnitrans transfers. "This

transit center will enhance regional travel and we are looking at future expansion."

Victoria concluded, "We look forward to being a more integral part of Yucaipa. We are proud to present this to the citizens of this community. It is for you and for your use."

Highland Mayor and Omnitrans Board of Directors Chair Penny Lilburn said, "We are pleased to provide the community more transportation options and one that is environmentally friendly."

Lilburn commended Riddell

and the Yucaipa city council for their efforts and unveiled a plaque at the transit center. "This plaque is commemorating your service and dedication."

The event concluded with a performance by the Yucaipa Christian Preschoolers who sang a very appropriate rendition of "The Wheels on the Bus."

A ribbon cutting ceremony and a Bus Run marked the official opening of the Transit Center. The center is now open to the public.

### Calimesa, continued from Page 1

conceptual streetscape plans DMC had prepared as well as the initial land use plan pro-

posed by The Planning Center. The Ad Hoc Committee cleared the streetscape plan for

review by the Public Works and Safety Commission and Planning Commission and request-

ed that The Planning Center return before the Ad Hoc Committee to review the draft

Corridor Plan Update and Design Standards at a later date.

## Concept Plan Roadway (No On-Street Parking)

