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SunLine Makes Improvements for Local Riders

First Two Simme Seats Installed in Desert Hot Springs and Indio

(Thousand Palms, CA) March 19, 2013 • SunLine Transit Agency is pleased to announce the installation of the first two (2) Simme seats at bus stops throughout the Coachella Valley. The Simme (pronounced sim-ee) Seat is designed to fit at stops where a transit shelter can't be accommodated because of a lack of space or stops with lower usage. Providing passengers with some seating at these locations will improve the rider's experience. The Simme seat is a good solution that maximizes space by offering seating for two (2) customers, as well as incorporating the bus stop sign and route schedule.



The first two (2) locations for the Simme Seat are at:

- Bus Stop #221 Calhoun Street at Avenue 48 in the City of Indio (Line 90)
- Bus Stop #136 West Drive at Hacienda Avenue in City of Desert Hot Springs (Line 15 Spa City Loop)

An additional twenty-two (22) Simme Seats have been purchased from Simme LLC of Eugene Oregon and will be installed over the next few months throughout the Coachella Valley.

General Manager C. Mikel Oglesby explains, "SunLine is committed to making our passenger experience the best it can be." Mayor Yvonne Parks of Desert Hot Springs, and Vice Chair of the SunLine Board says, "I too am thrilled to see the improvements being made to our bus stops. This unique seating solution will fill the void at stops where a shelter is not practical and Desert Hot Springs is glad to receive one of the first."

More information about SunLine can be found at <u>sunline.org</u>. • Media inquiries contact Norma Stevens at 760-250-5366 or e-mail <u>nstevens@sunline.org</u>.

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SunLine Transit Agency is a joint powers authority formed in 1977 to operate the Coachella Valley's public transportation system. SunLine offers fixed route bus service and curb-to-curb paratransit for the mobility impaired. Its fixed route and paratransit vehicles travel more than 4 million miles per year, covering over 619 bus stops located throughout a 1,120 mile-service area, carrying approximately 4.82 million riders. SunLine Services Group regulates three taxi franchises who provide taxi services throughout the Valley. SunFuels alternative fueling station offers compressed natural gas and hydrogen for SunLine and the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To learn more, please visit sunline.org.