



NEWS RELEASE

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SUN LINK STREETCAR OPENING DAY – A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

Following the formal dedication of the Sun Link streetcar at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 25, 2014, the City of Tucson and the Regional Transportation Authority reported that an estimated 17,000 riders boarded Tucson's new streetcars and experienced a new way to travel to the many destinations from the West Side of downtown through the heart of the City into the University of Arizona campus.

“Without a doubt, July 25th, 2014 will be considered a historic day for the City of Tucson,” said Tucson City Manager Richard Miranda.

The hours of operation on opening day were 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Up to eight streetcars were operating on the street the majority of the day and night. When ridership decreased during short periods of times, no less than six vehicles were operating on the four-mile long route.

The support provided by the community volunteers, several departments within the City of Tucson and the numerous groups who provided materials or labor, led to a smooth opening day.

“The Sun Link streetcar system had a great first day of service,” said Shellie Ginn, Project Manager for the Sun Link Streetcar. “We were able to provide a comfortable, cool ride for thousands of people and the streetcars were consistently overflowing with passengers. Connecting the five districts along the route has made the opening day experience even better. I hope everyone has a chance to take advantage of the free-ride weekend and check out the new streetcars and support Tucson's local businesses along the route.”

The hours of operation for the weekend are 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Saturday, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday. Beginning Monday, July 28, 2014, Sun Link begins collecting fares with riders needing a SunGO card or a one-day SunGO pass available at the streetcar stops along the route.

Visit www.SunLinkStreetcar.com for more information about Sun Link.

The four-mile Sun Link Streetcar route connects five districts: the University of Arizona, Main Gate Square, Fourth Avenue, Downtown, and the Mercado; 100,000 people live, work and play within a quarter mile of the corridor. Sun Link is the first *Made in America* streetcar system in the U.S. in nearly 60 years and Tucson's first all-electric, fixed rail transit system. Sun Link is part of the voter-approved, \$2.1 billion RTA plan implemented through 2026.

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