



## Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority

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### PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 13, 2013

#### **YUMA COUNTY AREA TRANSIT NOW PROVIDES REAL TIME TRANSIT INFORMATION TO RIDES ON ORANGE ROUTE 2/2A**

**YUMA, AZ (March 13, 2013)** - The Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (YCIPTA) has implemented catTRAX real time transit information which helps takes the guesswork out of bus arrival times. Working in partnership with NextBus, Inc of Emeryville, California, catTRAX provides a service that allows for the user to obtain real time information regarding when an YCAT bus would arrive at the next bus stop.

“This will be a major improvement for YCAT riders throughout Yuma County,” said Transit Director, John Andoh. “They will no longer have to guess when the next bus will arrive.”

“With a cell phone or an Internet connection, now you can find out when your bus is coming -- at any of YCAT’s Orange Route 2 bus stops, between Downtown Yuma, Arizona Western College and eastern Yuma areas”.

YCIPTA is demonstrating this new service as a test. If the service is successful, YCIPTA will launch catTRAX system wide. Three YCAT buses have been outfitted with a GPS tracker.

catTRAX through NextBus’s technology uses global positioning satellites and advanced computer modeling to track the location of buses on their routes every 30 seconds. Taking into account the actual position of the buses, their intended stops and typical traffic patterns, the system estimates bus arrival times. The estimated arrival times of a bus at a particular stop are sent to the customer via mobile devices, like cell phones, YCAT’s Web site and electronic signs at select bus stops. In general, the predicted information will be accurate to within a couple of seconds as buses are subject to unpredictable field conditions such as traffic and weather.

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John Andoh, Transit Director

Another benefit is that YCIPTA's contractor, First Transit managers and dispatchers monitoring bus service on the streets will have access to the same real-time information. They will be able to troubleshoot when buses are falling behind schedule, arrive too early or when multiple buses arrive at the same stop, at the same time.

Real-time arrival information is accessible via an electronic sign installed at Arizona Western College. Additional signs will be added at major bus stops such as Downtown Yuma Transit Center, Yuma Palms Regional Center, West Yuma Transfer Hub, Paradise Casino, Main and C Streets in San Luis, Cocopah Casino Resort and Yuma Regional Medical Center.

Riders can obtain information about when their next bus will arrive by visiting YCAT's Web site ([www.ycat.az.gov](http://www.ycat.az.gov)) and clicking on the link catTRAX link. Enter the bus stop identification number found on the YCAT bus stop signs or specify the desired bus route, direction of travel and the bus stop location. Bus arrival times will appear for Orange Route 2 serving the stop. Delay information for particular routes also will be posted online, and the information will be available by phone and SMS as well. The information on bus arrival times is automatically displayed and updated every minute. Visitors to the Website also can see a map that displays the Orange Route 2 and arrival times of the buses at particular stops.

Riders can also call 928.304.7537 and follow the prompts to get arrival time information by phone. Riders can enter the bus stop identification number posted at the bus stop and state the bus route number on the phone and the service will provide the estimated time of arrival for their bus.

Riders can also text the yuma and the bus stop number to 41411 and within seconds, the real time information will send the next bus trips for that particular stop back to the sign.

For YCAT transit information and YCAT OnCall reservations call 928-783-2235. You can also visit the YCAT online at [www.ycat.az.gov](http://www.ycat.az.gov).

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