



# SEDONA SHUTTLE NEWS

Sedona Shuttle Connect coming this summer!



Later this summer, the City of Sedona will introduce a new Sedona Shuttle service – Sedona Shuttle Connect: public transit that comes to you!

For the past two years, the City of Sedona has been working on the development of an app-based, on-demand transit service that will pick up residents and visitors and drop them off at destinations throughout Sedona. However, delays in vehicle construction have slowed the project. But now, at last, the vehicles have arrived in Arizona and are in midst of getting inspected, wrapped and outfitted with the technology that will put public transit at your fingertips.

Residents and visitors will be able to use a smartphone app to request rides almost anywhere in Sedona for only \$2.00 (\$1.00 for seniors, persons with disabilities, and veterans). Sedona Shuttle Connect will operate on peak travel days, the same as the trailhead routes. Shuttles run Thursday through Sunday, year-round, and daily during peak seasons such as Spring Break. The on-demand service will be available from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

To see the service area map and learn more about Sedona Shuttle Connect, visit:

<https://sedonashuttle.com/microtransit/>



## GROWING RIDERSHIP

### New ridership records during Spring Break

2024 was Sedona Shuttle's third Spring Break and more people than ever discovered the easy, eco-friendly way to explore Sedona's trails. During March and April, the system's four routes had 109,316 boardings. That is up nearly 10% over 2023.

Long time visitors to Sedona tell us that the difference getting to popular trails is amazing. The automobile congestion and search for parking has been replaced with a quick, comfortable, safe ride right to the trailheads. And

local residents are thrilled with the reduced congestion and illegal parking in their neighborhoods.



# NATIONAL ATTENTION

We're getting attention nationally and locally!

## **Sedona Shuttle hosts US DOT VOLPE Center Public Lands Team**

Recently, Sedona Shuttle provided a four-hour tour of the greater Sedona Area to the US Department of Transportation VOLPE Public Lands Team. The tour included key areas with high visitation within Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon, and the Village of Oak Creek.

The VOLPE team led a Transportation Assessment Group (TAG) that included representatives from the Coconino National Forest, City of Sedona, Yavapai County, Arizona Department of Transportation, US Forest Service Washington Office, White River National Forest, Summit County CO, and the town of Breckenridge CO.

The goal of the TAG was to identify and document actionable steps, like the Sedona Shuttle, which help to sustainably manage visitation, minimize negative environmental impacts, and preserve a positive experience in the region for both residents and visitors.

## **Sedona Shuttle a leader in serving USFS Trails**

The Sedona Shuttle was also the topic of a session at the National Rural Transit Assistance Program's Annual Conference – "Leveraging Transit to Manage Sustainable Tourism on Public Lands." Sedona's Transit Administrator and the US Forest Service discussed how Sedona Shuttle is the first rural public transit system that provides access to multiple trailheads within a USFS district trail system. Other "gateway" communities are looking to Sedona as an example of how to work in partnership with the US Forest Service.

## **Sedona Shuttle receives award from Keep Sedona Beautiful**

Keep Sedona Beautiful recently gave the City of Sedona its Award of Excellence for the Sedona Shuttle. The Trailhead Shuttle System was one of three local services honored for Sustainability.

In describing why Sedona Shuttle was selected the KSB said: "Free shuttles take hikers to five trailheads: Cathedral Rock, Little Horse, Soldier Pass, Dry Creek Vista, and Mescal. Each group of hikers that take the shuttle is one less car on the road and in the overflowing trailhead parking lots. Since inception, the shuttle has served over 700,000 riders, avoiding over 650 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions."



# TALES FROM THE TRAILS

## Sedona Shuttle driver rescues elderly hiker

Sedona Shuttle drivers are heroes every day, to the thousands of hikers who rely on them to get safely to and from Sedona's trailheads. But recently, one driver, Dave Rehborg, went above and beyond.

With quick thinking and compassion, Dave came to the rescue of an 80-year-old hiker from the United Kingdom who had been lost for about five hours. The lost hiker stumbled upon Dave and his bus after taking a wrong turn on the trails, finding himself without water, a phone or knowledge of his location. Dave immediately transported the hiker to a nearby bus stop, bringing him closer to his original location and ensuring his safety. Via radio, Dave then initiated a chain of events that brought in the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, who had been actively looking for the lost hiker. Dave waited with the gentleman until officers were able to retrieve him from the bus stop. Because of Dave's swift actions, the lost hiker was reunited with his family, safe and sound. Thank you, Dave!



## Summer safety tips

Dave's story is a good reminder that summer is upon us and we need to take special care when hiking to insure our safety. The National Forest Service recommends:

- Water - at least one gallon per day
- Food – salty snacks, eat twice as much as usual
- First Aid kit
- Flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries
- Map and compass
- Appropriate clothing – extra layers, rain jacket, hiking shoes, hat
- Whistle or signal mirror for emergencies

- Knife or multi-tool
- Cell phone – some wilderness areas may not have service
- Binoculars – for viewing wildlife at a distance

Always tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.

## DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY!

Sedona Shuttle riders can see exactly where the shuttle is and when it will arrive using the real-time page on [SedonaShuttle.com](http://SedonaShuttle.com) or the TransLōc mobile app.



## CONTACT US

[SedonaShuttle.com](http://SedonaShuttle.com)

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City of Sedona • [sedonaaz.gov](http://sedonaaz.gov) • 102 Roadrunner Drive • Sedona, AZ 86336