



# HEMET

MOBILITY HUB PROJECT



Riverside Transit Agency (RTA), in partnership with the City of Hemet, is preparing to design a new mobility hub in the City of Hemet. The project is part of the Downtown Hemet Specific Plan, which is designed to enrich and strengthen the community for years to come. Thanks to feedback from city leaders and community members, the project is expected to play a pivotal role in shaping the way public transportation is delivered in the region.

Two public workshops are planned for this project and will be held at the Simpson Center, located at 305 E. Devonshire Ave. in Hemet. The workshops will be on July 25 and September 20 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Each workshop will have a project orientation presentation at 5:30 p.m. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a workshop, or any person with limited English proficiency who requires language assistance, should contact the Customer Information Center at (951) 565-5002.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Hemet's Vision for a Thriving Downtown is Getting Closer to Reality!

How Can You Get Involved?

Public Workshops, Stakeholder Interviews and Opportunities for Public Input

Transit Oriented District (TOD) Zone

Safety and Security by Design

Project Funding Sources and Schedule

# Hemet's Vision for a Thriving, Multi-Modal Downtown is Getting Closer to Reality!

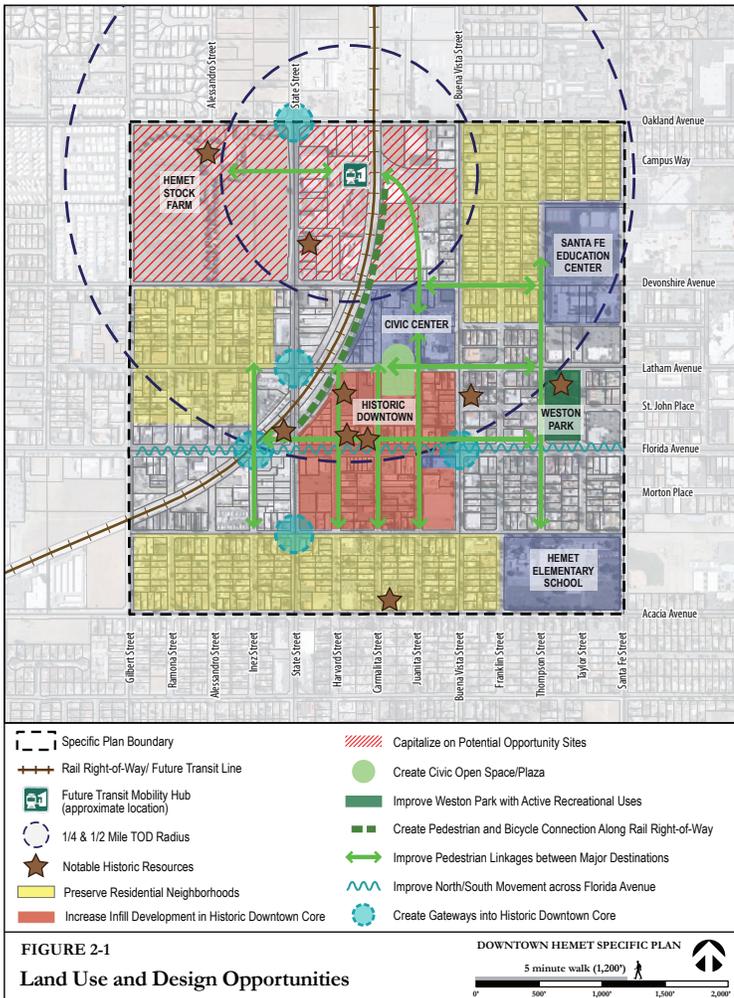
The central component of this project is the design of a state-of-the-art mobility hub that will be designed with emerging technologies, energy sources and mobility solutions in mind. Non-traditional modes such as shared bikes, shared vehicles, transportation network companies (Uber and Lyft) and pedestrian access will play a pivotal role in the planning process. The project will be fueled by multiple public and private partnerships, and will include a variety of funding sources, including state and federal grants.

Radiating out from the mobility hub, other developments are being explored to enhance the area. Those developments could include office buildings, retail stores and services, restaurants, and residential projects. Amenities could include public plazas, pathways for bicycles and pedestrians and attractive landscaping.

RTA is looking to connect passengers from local and commuter routes at the mobility hub, as well as provide connections to various other modes of transportation, including, bus, bicycle parking and bike sharing, ridesharing pick-up and drop-off locations, and car parking lots.

Dial-A-Ride and fixed-route bus services will use this center to provide multiple transfer opportunities for riders. RTA will lead the planning efforts for this hub and initiate construction of bus facilities. Many other communities have experienced similar successes with this model for transit-oriented development.

A “Visioning Tour” of the project site, followed by a design exercise and survey, were conducted in Hemet on May 31.





The Martin Meier House, built in 1908, is located on the edge of the mobility hub on State Street, and is listed on the state's inventory of historic places.

Cities like Chino, Escondido, Perris, Santee and Yucaipa, to name a few, have realized the importance of creating a vibrant downtown core area with the amenities and transportation options discussed above. Now it's Hemet's turn.

### How Can You Get Involved?

There are a number of different ways to get involved, including workshops, surveys, and getting up-to-date information online. A project page has been created on RTA's website located at:

[www.RiversideTransit.com/HemetHub](http://www.RiversideTransit.com/HemetHub) and there is a link to this project on the City of Hemet's website as well. Here you will find detailed project information, graphics and maps of the proposed station design elements, answers to frequently asked questions, and more.

There is a place on the website to submit questions on the project and all questions will receive a response. If you would like someone from RTA or the project design team to give a presentation to your community group on the project, this is a good place to make that request as well.

If you would like to speak to a live person about the project, the RTA Customer Information Center is available to answer your questions. Call (951) 565-5002 anytime from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays, and 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekends.

## DOWNTOWN VISION STATEMENT

"Downtown Hemet is the vibrant community hub of the San Jacinto Valley. It is the centerpiece of community identity, activity, culture and governance. With its well-preserved and diverse architecture, historic buildings and small town charm, downtown Hemet is a unique and identifiable destination. The traditional street grid pattern and tree-lined streets support shopping, dining, entertainment, and civic activities.

The historic commercial core is ringed by stable single family neighborhoods, the revitalized Hemet Stock Farm, multi-generational activities at Weston Park, and a vibrant transit-oriented district with housing and employment opportunities. The various districts of downtown are linked by easy and safe pedestrian and bicycle connections in a walkable, accessible and sustainable environment. Downtown Hemet takes pride in its local traditions and history, including its agricultural past, the celebrations of the Ramona Pageant, and a rich arts community."

*Source: Downtown Hemet Specific Plan*

### Public Workshops, Stakeholder Interviews and Opportunities for Public Input

Two public workshops are planned for this project, and will be held at the Simpson Center, located at 305 E. Devonshire Ave. in Hemet.

The workshops will be on July 25 and September 20 from 5p.m. to 7 p.m. The project team will be on hand to discuss and receive input on the hub's location and design options. The first workshop will focus on the planning and design of the project. The second workshop will provide the public with design options, one of which will go forward for Hemet City Council and RTA Board consideration.

Amenities for the mobility hub must provide commuters with the comfort, aesthetic appeal,

safety and security to encourage maximum use of the hub. Shelters would provide protection from the seasonal elements and include adequate seating. Bike lockers and racks as well as bike-sharing programs would provide those who arrive by non-motorized methods the option to transfer to other modes of transportation. The hub would be well-lit, safe, fully accessible, aesthetically landscaped, with directional and informational signage to assist users with reaching their final destinations.

Bicycle and pedestrian connections to the mobility hub project were planned by the City of Hemet as shown in the Downtown Hemet Specific Plan and by the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) regional active transportation plan.

### Transit Oriented District (TOD) Zone

The TOD zone is the anticipated location of the future transit mobility hub in downtown Hemet as identified in the Downtown Hemet Specific Plan. The new transit mobility hub is planned to be surrounded by residential, office and mixed use projects on what is currently primarily vacant and underutilized land. A bike and pedestrian path along the rail line that connects the transit mobility hub with historic downtown core and civic center area was also envisioned in the Specific Plan.

### Safety and Security by Design

RTA understands the public's need to feel safe while using the new transit station. There are a number of techniques being considered by the design team, RTA and the City of Hemet. These include design strategies to fully activate this block, with public spaces for recreation, music, art and entertainment. There will be ample lighting around the station, in the parking lots and pathways leading up to the station. Another design technique eliminates visual screens like walls, bushes and overgrowth, and

maintains a clear line of sight for people entering and exiting the transit facility. Installing closed circuit TV cameras is another common element at transit centers to enhance safety.

Over time, the planned mix of development projects around the station will be built and will attract more people to the businesses, restaurants and other services. These "eyes on the street" create a natural deterrence to undesirable activities.

### Project Funding Sources and Schedule

The Hemet mobility hub project is a partnership between the City of Hemet and Riverside Transit Agency (RTA). The design phase of the project is funded through earmark grants from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) distributed by WRCOG.

The project design team, led by Psomas of San Diego, is expecting to have a conceptual design of the mobility hub project completed by September 2017 and ready for City of Hemet and RTA Board consideration. Assuming approvals are received to move forward with the project, it would then progress into final design in early 2018.



For more information visit the project website or contact the project manager Kristin Warsinski at (951) 565-5136.