

Date: Friday, August 07, 2009

Record Ridership on River Valley Metro Creates Jobs

Bourbonnais, IL – Friday, August 7, 2009

River Valley Metro wrapped up their fiscal year on June 30th and finished another year with record numbers. In 2008, River Valley Metro served over 500,000 in a single year for the first time ever, but in this last fiscal year they exceeded that mark significantly by finishing the year with 633,600 riders. These numbers reflect a 21.7% increase over the same time last year.

River Valley Metro record numbers have been recognized nationally by the Federal Transit Administration. Metro has been recognized for their significant increase in ridership two years in a row by winning the “Success in Enhancing Ridership Award” from the FTA. Metro was in a small group of 10 winners nationally for these awards.

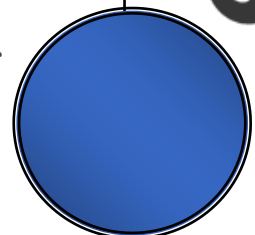
With increasing ridership comes increasing needs. Metro has been expanding to meet those needs. Recent expansions include a new transfer station and Park-N-Ride facility at the Metro Centre serving University Park. Passengers can now park their cars overnight free of charge and commute to downtown Chicago. Another expansion began on July 1st with the addition of a second bus on the Bourbonnais route. With the expansion of this route, Bourbonnais now has half hour service and businesses are served on both sides of the road making it more convenient for passengers.

The continued growth in ridership just confirms that River Valley Metro is right on track with their expansions. The month of July is a prime example with a ridership number of 72,450 riders. This is yet another first for Metro, breaking the 70,000 mark in a single month.

The bonus for the region is not only in the transportation, but with this growth comes jobs. River Valley Metro currently has opening for three dispatch supervisors. These positions come with full benefits and start at \$30,000 annually. “These jobs are high quality positions with a chance for growth, something that is very important in these economic times” stated Robert Hoffmann, managing director. “We are holding two employment orientation meetings on Thursday, August 13th at 10:00 am and 6:00 pm.

PRESS RELEASE

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Anyone interested in one of these three positions must attend a meeting and complete an application at that time.” Qualified applicants will then be required to take competency testing prior to an interview, to establish a valid hiring list of qualified candidates for the dispatch openings, as well as future openings.

“Our goal with these informational sessions is to brief the applicants on the requirements of the job and give them a better understanding of the important role the dispatch supervisors play in our team,” continued Hoffmann. Dispatchers are required to have outstanding communication skills, possess the ability to determine priorities and make critical decisions promptly. Multi-tasking with efficiency and accuracy is a necessity. “River Valley Metro operates everyday of the week,” stated Hoffmann. “All applicants must be prepared to work weekends, holidays and rotating evening, night, and day work schedules.”

Anyone interested in applying for one of the dispatch supervisor positions must attend either the 10 am or 6 pm meeting on August 13th at the Metro Centre, 1137 E 5000 North Road (west of Route 50 on St. George Road) in Bourbonnais.