



PRESS RELEASE

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RTD Hosts Free On-Site COVID-19 Testing to Support Community

Stockton, CA — As San Joaquin County reports the largest increase in daily and weekly COVID-19 cases since its summer peak, San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) seeks to partner with the community in combating the increase by hosting free COVID-19 testing on site at its Downtown Transit Center (DTC).

According to a recent California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT) seminar, "access to testing with fast turnaround time is a critical component of the State's continued COVID-19 response."

"Since testing is another way to keep cases down," said RTD CEO Gloria Salazar, "we wanted to do our part in making tests more accessible for our frontline employees and our community." RTD began hosting free on-site COVID-19 testing since November 24, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and will continue to do so every Tuesday based upon demand for tests.

Various RTD staff members, including the entire Human Resources Department, took advantage of the on-site testing. "The testing site was very organized," said Human Resources Manager Malika McGee, "and the procedure was surprisingly non-invasive."

"There was not a long wait," said Risk Administrator Nancy Antonio. "If you pre-register, the entire process from start to finish takes no more than 5 – 10 minutes. The actual test only takes about 2 minutes." To pre-register for the test, visit <https://avellinocov2.com/> and follow the prompts. Registration forms are also available at each testing site on a walk up basis.

"By bringing free testing to the DTC, we help bring awareness to the importance of testing and increase access to those who need it most," said Salazar. "This way, anyone can ride the bus to take a free COVID-19 test, which will contribute to keeping our entire community healthy."

San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) is the regional transit provider for San Joaquin County. RTD's mission is to provide a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system for the region. For more information visit sjRTD.com, follow RTD on Facebook and Twitter, or call (209) 943-1111.

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