

Yurok Tribe receives grant for ecofriendly transit vans

May 31, 2023



The Yurok Tribe's Transportation Program received \$977,058 from the California State Transit Agency's Transit and Intercity Rail Capitol Program to purchase four electric vehicle charging stations and four electric transit vans and these vehicles will be used for a permanent extension of the Yurok Transportation Program's transit route from Weitchpec to Willow Creek and Orleans.

"I would like to thank the California State Transit Agency for investing in our community. Expanding our zero-emissions fleet is one of the Yurok Transportation Program's primary objectives," said Yurok Transportation Program Director Brandi Natt. "From our new route, community members will be able to take advantage of Humboldt Transit Authority, Trinity Transit and Redwood Coast Transit Authority services to travel from the Willow Creek area to Weaverville and to the coast between Crescent City and Eureka."

The Yurok Transportation Program applied for the funds in collaboration with the Humboldt Transit Authority and Redwood Transit Authority, which received more than \$7 million to increase transit services,

build new infrastructure and grow their zero-emissions fleets.

Starting on May 8, the Yurok Transit Program began offering the fixed route from Weitchpec to Willow Creek and Orleans. Yurok transit riders travelling from the reservation will be able to connect with the Humboldt transit system in Willow Creek and travel to Weaverville/Redding and the Arcata/Eureka area, where there is greater access to healthcare and employment opportunities. From the Willow Creek area, riders will be able to travel in Yurok Transit vans to Weitchpec, Tulley Creek and Klamath.

Two of the new, emissions-free transit vans will be based out of the Yurok Transportation Program's Tulley Creek building. The other two vans will operate out of Klamath. Two of the electric vehicles charging stations will be installed in Tulley Creek Transportation Building. The two remaining charging stations will be installed at the Yurok Transportation Program's soon-to-be-built transit facility in Klamath. Last year, the Yurok Transportation Program received a \$1,280,000 grant from the Federal Transit Administration's Low- and No- Emissions Program to construct the new building. The funds will also be used to purchase state-of-the-art dispatch and real-time arrival software. The Klamath transportation building will have three electric vehicle charging stations too.