

For Immediate Release

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YARTS Breaking Ground on Mariposa Park and Ride Facility

MERCED, Calif., Fri. March 19, 2010 – Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) in partnership with The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will host a groundbreaking ceremony on Monday, April 5th at 11:30 a.m. at their new Park and Ride site in Mariposa. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

The \$1.2 million project is located beside the new Rite Aid on Joe Howard Street in Mariposa. The park and ride facility is funded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and Alternative Transportation in Park and Public Lands dollars.

When complete, the lot will have 84 parking spaces, five of which are for recreational vehicles, as well as handicapped parking. There will be restrooms, picnic tables and a bus stop shelter on the street. The property will also have video surveillance as a safety feature. Travelers and commuters will be able to board the YARTS bus and ride in comfort to their destination.

“YARTS has waited for this day to arrive for nearly 10 years,” said YARTS Transit Manager Dick Whittington. “The community will benefit, YARTS will benefit and the environment will benefit with fewer cars on the road.”

Roger Stephens Engineering of Mariposa designed the project, Teichert Construction, from Turlock, will construct the project and Mariposa County Public Works has been hired to manage the overall job. Construction is expected to be complete in late fall 2010.

YARTS is a Joint Powers Authority with Mariposa, Merced and Mono Counties as members and contracts with Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) for management, planning and administrative services. MCAG Executive Director, Jesse Brown, also functions as the Executive Director of YARTS.