

FACT SHEET FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY 511 SYSTEM

What is San Joaquin Valley (SJV) 511?

511 is the new, easy-to-remember telephone number for travel information for travel in the San Joaquin Valley.

What kind of travel information does 511 provide?

511 provides automated, near real-time, road conditions, and travel weather (both current and forecasted) information for Interstate, U.S., or state highways in the San Joaquin Valley and the rest of California. Travelers will also be able to get information for all of the transit agencies in the San Joaquin Valley.

When can I call 511?

You can call anytime-24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Can I call 511 from anywhere in the San Joaquin Valley?

You can call 511 from anywhere in San Joaquin Valley on a landline or cellular phone.

How does 511 work?

Just call 5-1-1 from any phone to be connected to a computerized menu driven system that will guide you to the information you are looking for whether it be travel-related information or transit agency information. Traveler information will also be available online at <http://www.sjv511.org>.

Why are we doing this when we are part of the Sacramento Council of Government's (SACOG) 511 system?

Participation in the SACOG 511 system only provides access to 511 information using wireless or cellular based telephones. The money from Caltrans District 6 provides funding for SJV 511 which will be used to pay the website or online component and switching costs for land-line access.

Who provided the funding to pay for SJV 511?

Caltrans District 6 is providing \$300,000 to \$400,000 to pay capital costs to build a website and cover switching costs for landline access to 511.

Who is paying for operating costs for SJV 511?

The City of Fresno has graciously offered to provide hosting to the website and 10 hours per month of 'in-kind' operations and maintenance on the website.

How long will the City of Fresno pay operating costs for the website?

The City of Fresno will pay operating costs for the website for 36 months starting on July 1, 2010.

Who pays the operating costs for the website after June 30, 2013?

It is hoped that the participating COGs can find funding sources for 511 by then. Regardless, one of the goals of the SJV 511 Oversight committee will be to locate and pursue funding opportunities for SJV 511.

What are the next steps to implementing SJV 511?

I am proposing that a committee be formed called the SJV 511 Oversight Committee that be composed of participating COGs, Caltrans, and the City of Fresno. The SJV 511 Oversight committee will be formed by joint memorandum of understanding (MOU) and serve two primary purposes:

- 1.) Provide management and oversight of the SJV 511 system, and
- 2.) search out and pursue funding opportunities for SJV 511.

Have possible funding sources for SJV 511 been identified?

Yes. Caltrans has instructed ICx, the consultant to the SJV 511 system to put in place and manage a self-funded advertising program like what has been put in place with the San Diego 511 System. Space on the website is sold to prospective advertisers. All revenues from advertising is used to pay the operating expenses of the 511 system. Additional funding sources include:

- FTA Section 5316/5317 JARC / New Freedom funds
- CMAQ funds, and more.

What is the current status of SJV 511?

A memorandum of understanding has been signed between the City of Fresno and Caltrans District 6. SACOG is still in the process of implementing wireless access through the SACOG 511 system. The SJV 511 website is currently in development with a project release date of January 2010.

What are next steps for SJV 511?

The MOU between Caltrans District 6 and the City of Fresno has just been signed. I want to work to identify participating COGs and have an MOU for the SJV 511 Oversight Committee defined by January or February of 2010, if not before.

How does 511 benefit travelers?

Safety improvements
Improved roadway efficiency
Emission reduction
Transit ridership increase

Source: <http://www.nevadadot.com/news/factsheets/pdfs/511.pdf>

What are the risks to 511?

There is risk in everything that one does. Some risks to the SJV 511 include:

- Very rapid growth rates because widespread adoption by the motoring public.
- Funding is not able to be secured after the June 30, 2013 deadline when the City of Fresno has the option to stop paying for the SJV 511 website.

In order to avoid any costs being passed onto participating COGs for the two points described above, the system can be turned off when quotas are reached or time has elapsed and additional funding has not be secured.