

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020



**Contact:** Darrin Peschka  
Program Manager, Government and Community Relations  
Ventura County Transportation Commission  
(805) 642-1591, ext. 108  
dpeschka@goventura.org

**VCTC Selects Contractor to Provide Critical Response to Roadway Incidents and Emergencies**

VENTURA, Calif. – Drivers hindered by disabled vehicles are one step closer to having free roadside assistance available on some Ventura County freeways.

The Ventura County Transportation Commission on Friday, Sept. 11, approved agreements with Platinum Tow & Transport Inc. of Camarillo as the tow truck contractor for the Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) program.

“The Freeway Service Patrol program provides an essential, valuable service to drivers in Ventura County,” said Commission Chair Claudia Bill-de la Peña. “The Commission unanimously supports this effort.”

The FSP program will provide roving tow and service trucks on three portions of the highway network, referred to as “beats,” during peak traffic periods to quickly clear disabled vehicles and provide motorist assistance.

The initial three beats in Ventura County are:

- Beat 1: US 101 from Ventura County/Los Angeles County Line to Camarillo Springs Road;
- Beat 2: US 101 from Camarillo Springs Road to Central Avenue;
- Beat 3: CA-118 from Ventura/Los Angeles County Line to State Route 23 (Rocky Peak).

The contractor will operate two roaming tow trucks on each of the beats from 6-9 a.m. and from 3-7 p.m. Monday through Friday. The service is expected to begin in mid-December.

“The Freeway Service Patrol Program not only will provide critical assistance to drivers in need, but it also will help ease congestion, which in turn has a positive impact on the environment,” said VCTC Executive Director Darren Kettle.

While an FSP has existed in Los Angeles County and other counties for several years, the program is new to Ventura County. In December 2019, VCTC approved a resolution to provide 25% of matching funds for the program.

FSP is a joint program of the California Department of Transportation, the California Highway Patrol and Ventura County Service for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE). The local SAFE contracts with two contractors to provide the FSP service. CHP provides daily oversight and direction to

the contractors and their drivers. Caltrans provides 75% of program funding. Local matching funds come from a \$1 annual fee on vehicles registered in Ventura County.

**About the Ventura County Transportation Commission**

The Ventura County Transportation Commission is the regional transportation planning agency committed to keeping Ventura County moving. Program information is available at [goventura.org](http://goventura.org).

###