

# Rosa Parks Bus Plaque



“ My only concern was to get home after a hard day’s work. ”

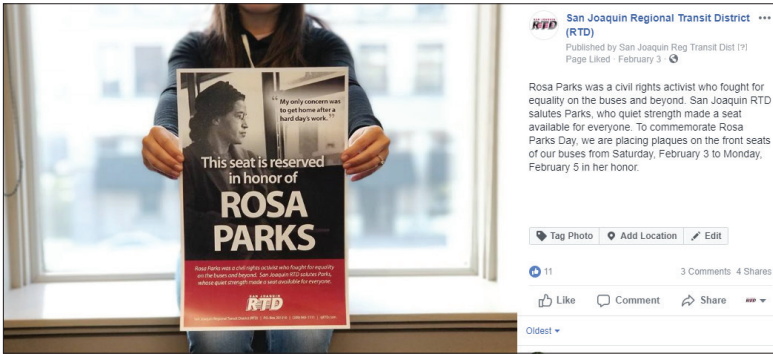
This seat is reserved  
in honor of

**ROSA  
PARKS**

*Rosa Parks was a civil rights activist who fought for equality on the buses and beyond. San Joaquin RTD salutes Parks, whose quiet strength made a seat available for everyone.*



# Rosa Parks Social Media



**RTD** San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD)  
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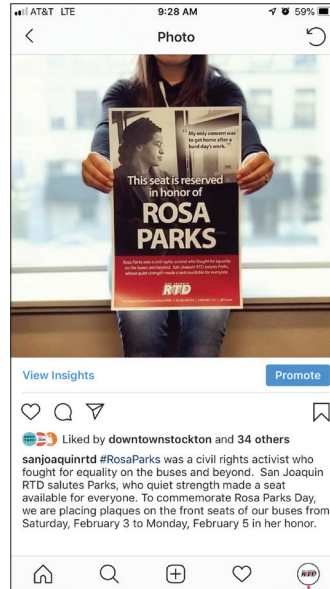
Rosa Parks was a civil rights activist who fought for equality on the buses and beyond. San Joaquin RTD salutes Parks, who quiet strength made a seat available for everyone. To commemorate Rosa Parks Day, we are placing plaques on the front seats of our buses from Saturday, February 3 to Monday, February 5 in her honor.

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# Rosa Parks Press

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### San Joaquin RTD Reserves Seat for Rosa Parks on 105th Birthday

It was more than six decades ago that Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat in Montgomery, Alabama on Dec. 1, 1955. On January 30, Parks would've turned 105 years old.

To honor the civil rights activist, San Joaquin Regional Transit reserved a seat for her in the front of more than 100 busses with a picture of Parks, and a quote reading, "My only concern was to get home after a hard day's work."

"I looked at that sign, and for a moment, I paused. It made a difference in my life today," said RTD passenger, Esther Singh. The 65-year-old said Parks had made a big impact in her life. "She was a powerful woman, she was a wife, a mother, a hard worker. For her to take that stance against having to sit in the back of the bus — she took that step that all of us today should take in what we believe in," Singh adds.

Singh says Parks' fearless actions motivated her during times when she experienced injustices.

"She was a great inspiration for me in the working world. When I was a young mother — a single young mother working — I had to stand up for my rights, my payroll, for my vacation time," Singh added.

"RTD has been wanting to honor her for several years," said Terry Williams, San Joaquin RTD Spokesman.

RTD kept the Rosa Parks posters up until Monday, Feb. 5.



San Joaquin RTD wants everyone to remember that it was Parks' quiet strength that made a seat available for everyone.

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San Joaquin RTD reserves seat for Rosa Parks on her 105th birthday

Rosa Parks would've turned 105 years old on Feb. 4, 2018.

### San Joaquin RTD reserves seat for Rosa Parks on her 105th birthday

Rosa Parks would've turned 105 years old on Feb. 4, 2018.

Author: Denise Patten  
Published: 7:18 PM PST February 4, 2018  
Updated: 7:18 PM PST February 4, 2018

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San Joaquin RTD Saves a Seat on the Bus for Rosa Parks

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Remaining

## County RTD to honor legacy of civil rights icon Rosa Parks

Story  
Posted: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:00 am  
By Danielle Vaughn/News-Sentinel Staff Writer

As a little girl growing up in Texas, Grace & Mercy Charitable Foundation Founder Cheryl Francis, who attended segregated schools until the age of 9, remembers the discrimination that she and others like her faced because of the color of their skin.

"When we went to stores, there was for colored only and then there was for whites," Francis said. "When we went out to eat, I remember having a hamburger and sitting and watching all the other little kids on the other side of the room that we weren't allowed to talk to. The kids were the same age as I was, and I could never understand that. My mother instilled in us that it's not you and it's them."

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Because of several courageous leaders in the civil rights movement, today there are no separate fountains, schools, bathrooms or other public facilities. People are free to sit wherever they want on the bus, regardless of their skin color.

One of those leaders was Rosa Parks, and the San Joaquin County Regional Transit District has decided to honor her by reserving a front seat on Commuter, Hopper, and Stockton City buses in her memory between Feb. 3 and Feb. 5. A commemorative sign will be placed on the front seat honoring her equal rights advocacy and dedication to the cause.

"We really wanted to pay homage to Rosa Parks, because today quality bus service is available to everyone, but it hasn't always been that way," RTD Public Information Officer Terry Williams said. "If you go back in time, there were significant issues that faced a lot of people for all the wrong reasons. A lot of that has been improved upon, in part, as a result of the Civil Rights Act and a lot of it really stems from front-line action that was taken by Rosa Parks and folks like her who were pioneers and who were incredibly courageous in terms of making a difference. So, we don't want to forget that at this time."

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### She opened up seats for everyone

By Alex Breitter  
Record Staff Writer

Posted Feb 3, 2018 at 6:49 PM  
Updated Feb 3, 2018 at 6:49 PM

Civil rights icon Rosa Parks will step out of the pages of history books and onto local transit buses today.

More than 100 buses — nearly all of the San Joaquin Regional Transit District's fleet — will symbolically reserve their front seats in honor of Parks, who would have turned 105 today.

Their gesture, of course, is in honor of Parks' refusal to give up her seat to a white man and move to the back of a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. That action in 1955 helped usher in the modern civil rights movement.

RTD passengers all weekend and on Monday will find an 11-by-17-inch placard attached to the front seat, including a photo of Parks and her famous quote: "My only concern was to get home after a hard day's work."

Instead of a peaceful ride home, she was arrested, triggering the Montgomery bus boycott and, eventually, a ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court that public bus segregation is unconstitutional.

Parks' quiet strength "made a seat available for everyone," says the placard that passengers will see this weekend.

"This seat is reserved in honor of Rosa Parks," it says.

It's the first time that RTD has honored Parks in such a way, though transit districts in other parts of the country have done so previously, said spokesman Terry Williams. He said he received a call last week from Alabama Public Radio asking about what RTD is doing.