

The Bus Stops Here!



PARKING & TRANSPORTATION NEWS

The Veggie Bus Starts Here!

Parking and Transportation Services has announced an art competition to design the outside of its latest transport innovation, the Veggie Bus - a PATS shuttle, mechanically modified to run on refuse vegetable oil, solely recovered from campus kitchens.

PATS Program Planning Manager Cynthia Martin is very enthusiastic about this project. "We love it," she says. "We definitely want to shout about it and that's why we're holding an open, across-campus competition to design the outside of it." The working guidelines are fairly loose, though designs on the themes of sustainability; environmental-friendliness and the general prestige of UNM are particularly welcome. The PATS logo should also be incorporated in some way. The logo and bus outline templates (for guidance) can be downloaded from the PATS website: <http://pats.unm.edu/veggiebus.cfm>.

The winning design will be transformed into a 'wrap' and will last for the life of the vehicle - a long lifespan, hopes Martin. "In effect, the winner will create a unique, mobile, 3D art exhibit, that will be used daily by hundreds and seen by thousands. It will make a very impressive addition to someone's portfolio."

The Veggie Bus initiative, - run in conjunction with the Sustainability Studies Program - will demonstrate the feasibility of a completely self-

sufficient, on-campus transportation resource. With a relatively cost-free fuel supply it will be independent of rising conventional fuel costs, while at the same time providing an optimum collection and disposal service of material that up until now was considered waste.

Cynthia Martin continues "This will be a flagship project to highlight the use of a campus resource in a completely proactive way. The use of waste vegetable oil in this application demonstrates UNM's commitment to long-term sustainability. We think that the appearance of the Veggie Bus on and around campus will be a very positive image sending out the message that by thinking differently about our common resources, we can come up with solid, effective, sustainable solutions."

The closing date for entries is November 15.



Oil change: the PATS shuttle awaits the installation of its new vegetable oil-burning engine.

Ideas? Information? Talk to us: bkilburn@parking.unm.edu

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