

## Sheltered Living

Madera Area Express (MAX) riders who have arduously waited for relief from the Valley heat can take comfort in the ten new bus shelters recently installed by the City of Madera. The welcoming canopies not only provide shade from the summer sun, but will certainly make the rainy season more endurable for MAX passengers as well. Electric blue benches, route map holders and trash cans are added benefits of the shelters, which will be maintained every two weeks by the City.

Over the past several years, the City of Madera has worked diligently to secure the necessary permits to install the new shelters. Robert Brown, City of Madera Assistant Administrator, is quick to point out that the process to meet the necessary federal accessibility requirements for all ten shelters was a long and exhaustive process, but was ultimately the most cost effective method for the City.

Using Local Transportation Fund and Federal Transit Assistance 5307 dollars, the City was able to secure the \$100,000 necessary to construct the ten shelters along the current MAX route. According to Mr. Brown, the attractive new shelters are “long overdue and will improve the quality of service to Madera residents.”

The location for each of the shelters was determined through a careful examination of ridership patterns along with extensive input from the Madera Transit Advisory Board, a seven member organization comprised of Madera residents. As of now, there are no plans to install additional shelters; however, any non-profit group wishing to help fund a shelter is encouraged to contact Mr. Brown.

*For more pictures and locations of the ten shelters, please visit our website at [www.maderactc.org](http://www.maderactc.org)*