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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Valley Regional Transit to donate bus to Parma Senior Center**

MERIDIAN – Valley Regional Transit (VRT) will donate a used, fully-equipped, handicap-accessible bus to the Parma Senior Center for use in transporting its members to locations throughout the Treasure Valley. The donation will take place at **1 p.m. Thursday (May 3)** outside the senior center, located at 410 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St. in Parma.

The Parma Senior Center was selected to receive the vehicle because of the large geographic area it serves. Its members come from western and northern Canyon County. David Pederson, VRT Community Transportation Coordinator, said the enthusiasm senior center staff has shown for operating and supporting Valley Regional Transit’s **goride** Shared Vehicle Program has been extraordinary.

“The senior center is now in a position to provide transportation into Caldwell and all the way to the VA medical center in Boise,” Pederson said. “VRT chose the Parma site to locate one of its shared vehicles due in large part to the vibrant, active senior center, which will allow the publicly funded asset to provide further years of service to the community.”

The 2003, 28-foot Ford E-450 bus had been used by ValleyRide as an ACCESS vehicle. It requires a driver with a commercial driver’s license, seats eight ambulatory passengers plus up to six passengers confined to wheelchairs.

The VRT **goride** program includes vehicle sharing, from buses to sedans, volunteer driver programs to provide low-cost rides for seniors or the disabled without access to other forms of transportation, and job access vanpools for Canyon County employers. For additional information, please contact David Pederson, Community Transportation Coordinator at (208) 258-2725.