

YOUR CENTRAL VALLEY

Miocar carsharing service being offered in Tulare County

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By: Pedro Quintana

People living in Tulare and Kern counties will have a new car sharing service that will take them where they need to go while reducing air pollution in the Central Valley.

Miocar is an electric vehicle car sharing service which is being rolled out in small cities like Dinuba, Orosi, Wasco and Arvin.

“We choose these locations because they are a bit more remote and these are areas where residents feel that they need access, more access to transportation services,” Abigail Solis, Self Help Enterprise Community Development Manager said.

She said this program will give people who are 21-year-old or over with a good driving record an easy and flexible transportation option for running errands, getting to medical appointments or other daily needs.

“We have seen that many times in rural areas, we have families with one vehicle and if that vehicle is taken to work, gone all day by one parent, the other parent will stay home without a vehicle through out the day,” Solis said.

This pilot program is currently available in Tulare and Kern Counties, it is funded through a state grant.

Solis said her organization teamed up with Miocar and Cal Vans to bring these electric car stations to three affordable housing units around Tulare County.

Solis said the program is similar to Uber but instead of ordering a ride, you’re ordering a vehicle, the subscriber would have to pick up the electric car at its charging station.

There is a one time membership fee of \$20.

It will cost you about \$4 an hour to rent the electric car or \$35 for the entire day.

40 people have already signed up but Solis is hoping the program will grow.

“We are really hoping that after this initial pilot phase that it will be super successful and we’d be able to expand into other areas of Tulare County and other areas of the San Joaquin Valley like Fresno County and Kern County,” she said.