

S T A F F R E P O R T

SUBJECT: Formalizing Service to Emerald High School - Route 201

FROM: Michael Tobin, Director of Operations

DATE: October 28, 2024

Action Requested

Recommend that the Board of Directors set a public hearing to hear public comments regarding the formalization of Route 201, serving Emerald High School, in compliance with LAVTA’s Title VI and Major Service Change Policy.

Background

Emerald High School opened in August 2024. At the March 2024 meeting, the Projects & Services (P&S) Committee received an update regarding the creation of a new Route 201 to serve the school.

Initial projections indicated that approximately 40 students would use the service in the morning and 80 students in the afternoon, which led to the recommendation of one morning bus and two afternoon buses, with resources reallocated from existing school tripper 500-series routes serving Dublin High School (DHS).

Staff recommended that Route 201 be implemented in August 2024 as a pilot program, with the understanding that service levels could be revisited once ridership data was collected after the start of the school year. Based on data from August through October, the demand has aligned with initial projections, and no further adjustments to service are needed at this time.

Month	AWB
August	91
September	92
October (month to date)	66

Table 1 Average Weekday Boardings by month for Route 201

Additionally, according to the Dublin Unified School District, Emerald High School's enrollment is projected to reach 1,172 students by the 2024/2025 school year and grow to 1,765 students by 2025/2026. Based on these projections, the current resource allocation for Route 201 is expected to adequately meet demand as enrollment increases over the next year.

Staff will continue to monitor ridership closely and adjust service levels if necessary to ensure that capacity remains aligned with demand.

Discussion

LAVTA’s Title VI Policy mandates that a public hearing be held for the introduction of any new permanent route. As Route 201 has been operating on a pilot basis and the data supports maintaining the current service level, staff is recommending that the P&S Committee recommend that the Board set a public hearing at the December 2nd Board meeting to hear comments about the formalization of Route 201.

Budget

There is no direct budget impact associated with the adoption of Route 201, as resources for this route were included in the FY25 budget. are reallocated from the current school route overflow capacity.

Recommendation

Staff recommend that the Projects and Services Committee recommend the Board of Directors set a public hearing to hear public comments regarding the formalization of Route 201.