

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Cancellation of Phase Two of 2018-Adopted Fare Increase
FROM: Tony McCaulay, Director of Planning and Marketing
DATE: February 6, 2023

Action Requested

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors cancel phase two of the previously adopted 2018 fare increase to Senior and Disabled Monthly Pass and Dial-A-Ride ticket.

Background

In October 2018, the LAVTA Board approved a set of fare changes and increases, the majority of which were implemented on January 1, 2019. However, two of the changes were approved for a later phased implementation based on input from the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC). Those phase 2 changes were:

- Have the Senior and Disabled Monthly Pass increase from \$22 to \$25 in January, 2021 with no additional increase beyond that point.
- Have the Dial-A-Ride fare increase from \$3.75 to \$4.00 until January 2021, which leaves two years between the fare increases instead of one year that was proposed.

Discussion

Given the impact of the Pandemic, as well as the decrease in ridership, in November 2020 the Board approved a staff recommendation to delay implementation of these two fare changes by one year to January 1, 2022. In December 2021, the Board again approved a staff recommendation to delay implementation again to January 1, 2023.

Instead of postponing the fare increase for another year or proceeding with implementation, staff is recommending canceling the above two fare changes and instead addressing these and other fares at a later date, either through a comprehensive fare evaluation/study or as a part of the regional fare integration work being led by MTC. The financial impact to LAVTA is anticipated to be between \$500 and \$1,000 per month.

Next Steps

Upon Board's approval staff is planning on issuing a press release and conducting outreach per the Agency's Title VI obligations. Included in the outreach activities will be presentations to Tri-Valley Wheels Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC), Pleasanton Rides Task Force, and Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) as well as notices to LAVTA website and social media.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors permanently cancel phase 2 of the previously adopted 2018 fare increase to Senior and Disabled Monthly Pass and Dial-A-Ride ticket.

Attachments:

1. Staff Report from October 1, 2018, November 2, 2020, and December 6, 2021 Board of Director meetings

Approved: _____

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
S T A F F R E P O R T

SUBJECT: Staff Proposed Revision to Adopted Fare Increase Timeline

FROM: Michael Tree, Executive Director

DATE: December 6, 2021

Action Requested

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve a second revised implementation date for two fare increase categories previously approved for implementation on January 1, 2021 and recommends that the Board delay the implementation of these proposed changes to January 1, 2023.

Background

In October 2018, the LAVTA Board approved a set of fare policy changes. The majority of those changes were implemented on January 1, 2019. However, two of the changes were approved for a phased implementation based on input from the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC). Those changes were:

- Have the Senior and Disabled Monthly Pass increase from \$18 to \$22 in January, 2019, as originally proposed by staff, then increase from \$22 to \$25 in January, 2021 with no additional increase beyond that point.
- Have the Dial-A-Ride fare increase from \$3.50 to \$3.75 in January 2019, as originally proposed by staff and delay the proposed increase to \$4.00 until January 2021, which leaves two years between the fare increases instead of one year that was proposed.

Discussion

Given the impact of the pandemic, in November 2020 the Board approved a staff recommendation to delay implementation of these two fare changes by one year to January 1, 2022. Since little has changed since last November staff is proposing that these two changes be postponed again to January 1, 2023. The financial impact to LAVTA is anticipated to be less than \$400 per month.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve a second revised implementation date for two fare increase categories previously approved for implementation on January 1, 2021 and recommends that the Board delay the implementation of these proposed changes to January 1, 2023.

Submitted: _____

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Staff Proposed Revision to Adopted Fare Increase Timeline

FROM: Michael Tree, Executive Director

DATE: November 2, 2020

Action Requested

The Finance and Administration Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve a revised implementation date for two fare increase categories previously approved for implementation on January 1, 2021 and recommends that the Board delay the implementation of these proposed changes to January 1, 2022.

Background

In October 2018, the LAVTA Board approved a set of fare policy changes. The majority of those changes were implemented on January 1, 2019. However, two of the changes were approved for a phased implementation based on input from the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC). Those changes were:

- Have the Senior and Disabled Monthly Pass increase from \$18 to \$22 in January, 2019, as originally proposed by staff, then increase from \$22 to \$25 in January, 2021 with no additional increase beyond that point.
- Have the Dial-A-Ride fare increase from \$3.50 to \$3.75 in January 2019, as originally proposed by staff and delay the proposed increase to \$4.00 until January 2021, which leaves two years between the fare increases instead of one year that was proposed.

Discussion

Given the current environment and the economic impact of the pandemic, staff is recommending that both of these fare changes originally approved for January 1, 2021 be postponed by one year to January 1, 2022. The financial impact to LAVTA is anticipated to be less than \$400 per month.

Recommendation

The Finance and Administration Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve a revised implementation date for two fare increase categories previously approved for implementation on January 1, 2021 and recommends that the Board delay the implementation of these proposed changes to January 1, 2022.

Attachments:

1. Staff Report on October 2018
2. Minutes of October 1, 2018 Meeting

Submitted: _____

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
S T A F F R E P O R T

SUBJECT: Final Staff Proposed Fare Policy Changes

FROM: Tony McCaulay, Director of Planning and Marketing

DATE: October 1, 2018

Action Requested

LAVTA's Finance and Administration Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve the final staff proposed fare policy changes with an implementation date of January 1, 2019.

Background

In June 2016, staff presented the Board with a set of proposed fare policy changes and requested authorization to initiate a public input process. The public outreach process included:

- Two presentations to the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC, formerly the Wheels Accessible Advisory Committee) and one to the Pleasanton Paratransit Task Force
- Presentations to Wheels and Rapid bus operators at their monthly Safety Meetings in August
- Flyers outlining the public input process posted on all Wheels, Rapid and Paratransit vehicles and at high ridership bus stops
- A brochure detailing the proposed changes and the public input process that was made available on all Wheels, Rapid and Paratransit vehicles
- Flyers and brochures distributed to the public libraries, Senior Centers and a number of senior housing complexes in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin
- Advertisements outlining the public input process that ran twice each in the Pleasanton Weekly and the Livermore Independent
- A news release sent to area media, resulting in stories in the Pleasanton Weekly and Livermore Independent.
- Social media outreach including posts multiple posts on Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor as well as a post on Peachjar
- Public hearings in Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore the week of September 10

Discussion

Public feedback was primarily received via email and the wheelsbus.com website. Eleven comments were received from those sources and are included as Attachment 1 to this document. There were no attendees at either the Dublin or Pleasanton public hearings and three people came to the Livermore public hearing. None of the public hearing attendees submitted formal comments, but instead chose to ask questions and receive responses.

The Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC) considered the proposed changes at their September 5 meeting. At the meeting, the committee reviewed the proposals and chose to take an action recommending adjustments to the staff proposal. The TAAC recommended adjustments are:

- Have the Senior and Disabled Monthly Pass increase from \$18 to \$22 in January, 2019, as originally proposed by staff, then increase from \$22 to \$25 in January, 2021 with no additional increase beyond that point
- Have the Dial-A-Ride fare increase from \$3.50 to \$3.75 in January 2019, as originally proposed by staff and delay the proposed increase to \$4.00 until January 2021, which leaves two years between the fare increases instead of one year that was proposed.

Based on the input received, Staff is proposing the following fare policy changes, which includes some modifications from the original proposal noted below:

Eliminate transfers and replace with Day Pass. Currently, upon depositing payment, LAVTA passengers receive a 2-hour window of unlimited boardings at no extra charge. This is primarily intended for transferring from one route to another, but may also be used for short roundtrip or trip-chaining purposes within the allotted time window.

The Day Pass is already available as a fare payment option for passengers using the Clipper Card and is priced at \$3.75 (\$1.75 senior/disabled/Medicare), which is less than the cost of two cash fares. Further, it applies automatically with the second boarding of the day and caps the daily fare at this amount. Staff's proposal would expand the access to the Day Pass, making it available for cash purchase at the farebox upon boarding, by issuing a magnetic-stripe card as fare medium for this purpose.

A number of comments were received requesting that the current \$1 credit available for passengers transferring from BART to Wheels and rapid buses be maintained for those using a Clipper Card. Staff supports this request, which is limited to Clipper Card transactions and not the paper transfers issued at BART Stations.

The amended staff recommendation is that the current free two-hour transfer be discontinued and that the current Clipper Day Pass option priced at \$3.75 (\$1.75 senior/disabled/Medicare) be extended to also be available with a cash purchase onboard at the farebox. In addition, passengers transferring from BART and using a Clipper Card for payment would continue to receive a \$1 credit towards their Wheels or Rapid fare.

Eliminate 10-ride tickets and replace with a Youth Clipper Card fare at the same rate. Currently, LAVTA sells its FareBuster-branded tickets in paper sheets of 10 tickets for \$16.00 for Adults and Youth. This fare type is popular with parents of students who ride to school because they can dispense them to their children on a day-to-day basis.

These tickets, however, cannot be accepted by the new fareboxes that the agency is deploying fleet-wide. As an interim solution, FareBuster tickets are collected manually into a pouch by the

bus driver, who then turns it in at the end of the shift. This procedure is not ideal from a loss prevention and fraud perspective and needs to be discontinued.

Given this, staff proposed to discontinue the 10-ride FareBuster paper ticket and replace it with a \$1.60 (value equivalent to each individual FareBuster ticket) youth fare. This discounted fare would be available only on Clipper, and the youth fare discount would not apply to any other fare category, such as cash, the Day Pass cap or the monthly pass. Youth Clipper Cards are available free of charge. During the Fall 2018 semester, LAVTA staff would work closely with area schools to assist students in the transition from FareBusters to Clipper Cards.

LAVTA also currently sells 10-ride tickets for Senior/Disabled/Medicare riders for \$10.00, which provides no discount compared to cash fare. It is proposed to discontinue selling these 10-ride tickets and encourage the transition to Clipper Card. Senior/Disabled Clipper Cards offer the incentive of the discounted Day Pass when two or more rides are taken in a day.

Several public comments were received regarding this proposal. Among the comments were the following points:

- For a person who bikes to work and rides the bus home, a discounted fare medium would no longer be available
- Eliminating the Farebusters and the \$1 BART credit would increase the daily commute rate from \$2.60 to \$3.75
- Support for the new Clipper Card Youth fare
- Concern over being able to use existing supplies of Farebusters
- A question regarding the impact of the proposed Paratransit Fare on the cost of 10 ride paratransit tickets

After considering these comments, staff still proposes that 10-ride tickets no longer be sold beginning December 31, 2018. A rider using Farebusters today rides round trip for \$3.20. With the Day Pass proposal, this daily cost would increase to \$3.75. However, given the fact that LAVTA has not had a fare increase since 2009, this increase does not seem excessive. Staff originally proposed that 10-ride tickets would continue to be accepted through December 2020 to allow riders the opportunity to use previously purchased tickets. Upon further consideration, one year seems to provide sufficient time for the use of outstanding inventory, so staff is now proposing that tickets continue to be accepted through December 31, 2019. Regarding the cost of Paratransit 10 ride tickets, the cost has always been the non-discounted cost of ten rides. That is proposed to continue.

Raise monthly senior/disabled pass price to 50% of the full-fare monthly pass. The monthly pass provides for unlimited rides on the buses of LAVTA and three of the other small East Bay-based operators of County Connection, WestCat, and Tri-Delta Transit. It is available as a flash pass by calendar month, as well as on the Clipper card for a rolling 31-day period that starts with the day of the first boarding.

Currently, the price for an unlimited-ride monthly regular Adult/Youth monthly pass is \$60.00, while the price for a Senior/Disabled/Medicare monthly pass is \$18.00 – a 70% discount over

the regular price. This differs from LAVTA's other fare options, where the Senior/Disabled/Medicare discount is 50%.

In order to bring the pricing of the Senior/Disabled/Medicare monthly pass in line with the agency's other fare types (and common industry practice), staff had originally proposed to gradually raise the price of the Senior/Disabled/Medicare monthly pass to 50% of the regular Adult/Youth pass using the annual steps as follows:

- Current - \$18.00
- Proposed January 1, 2019- \$22.00
- Proposed January 1, 2020 - \$26.00
- Proposed January 1, 2021 - \$30.00

This was one of the proposals that the TAAC recommended adjustments to the original staff recommendation, suggesting that the pass increase from \$18 to \$22 in January 2019, as originally proposed, then increase from \$22 to \$25 in January 2021 with no additional increase beyond that point. Given the concern over the financial impact of the original proposal to the affected riders, staff supports the TAAC's recommendation.

Raise the paratransit fare to be double that of the fixed-route fare. Due to its nature of on-demand, curb-to-curb service, the LAVTA paratransit service is expensive to provide. Whereas the average subsidy in FY2017 per fixed-route passenger was \$7.66, the corresponding number for paratransit was \$27.40. The current fare the LAVTA paratransit service is \$3.50.

As a recipient of Federal funds, LAVTA cannot impose an unlimited charge on its paratransit riders; the Federal rules allow a charge of up to double the amount of the full fixed-route fare. Based on the agency's current full fare of \$2.00 for fixed route, the paratransit fare cap would be \$4.00.

Given the high cost of providing the paratransit service, and to encourage the use of fixed routes, it is proposed that the paratransit fare be raised to \$4.00. Recognizing that many of the riders in this category are on fixed, limited incomes, it is proposed that this increase be implemented in two steps:

- Current - \$3.50
- Proposed January 1, 2019 - \$3.75
- Proposed January 1, 2020 - \$4.00

The TAAC also asked for adjustments to the original staff recommendation on this proposal. They suggested that the fare increase from \$3.50 to \$3.75 in January 2019, as originally proposed and that LAVTA delay the proposed increase to \$4.00 until January 2021, which leaves two years between the fare increases instead of one year that was proposed. Again, given the concern over the financial impact of the original proposal to the affected riders, staff supports the TAAC's recommendation.

The table below summarizes the results from the modeling in terms of impact to revenue and ridership of the final staff recommended fare policy modifications.

Staff Recommendation Annual Ridership and Revenue Impacts

	Change in Annual Ridership	Ridership Percent Change	Change in Annual Revenue	Revenue Percent Change
Eliminate Transfers and Add Day Pass (\$3.75)	-22,100	-1.3%	\$315,800	15.7%
Eliminate FareBuster Tickets and Add Day Pass	-21,300	-1.3%	\$62,700	3.1%
Modify Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass Price (\$22)	-4,500	-0.3%	\$8,400	0.4%
Modify Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass Price (\$25)	-7,900	-0.5%	\$14,000	0.7%
Paratransit Fare (\$4.00)	-1,200	-2.3%	\$27,100	11.7%
Year one impact: Eliminate Transfers, Add Day Pass (\$3.75/\$1.75), Eliminate FareBuster Tickets (except Youth), Modify Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass Price (\$22)	-51,000	-3.1%	\$280,200	14.0%
Full implementation impact: Eliminate Transfers, Add Day Pass (\$3.75/\$1.75), Eliminate FareBuster Tickets (except Youth), Modify Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass Price (\$25)	-54,300	-3.3%	\$292,200	14.6%

Note: In FY16, Wheels annual fixed-route ridership was 1,648,604, and passenger fare revenue was \$2,007,023.

While LAVTA is not required to complete a fare equity analysis of these proposed changes as a part of its Title VI plan, the recommended changes recommended do not appear to disproportionately impact or burden low-income or limited-English proficient populations. It is also important to note that all of the proposed fare policy changes have been reviewed by LAVTA’s Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC) and both of the TAAC recommended modifications to the original staff proposal have been incorporated into this final staff recommendation.

Next Steps

If approved by the Board, staff would begin an extensive public outreach campaign to educate our passengers on the upcoming changes.

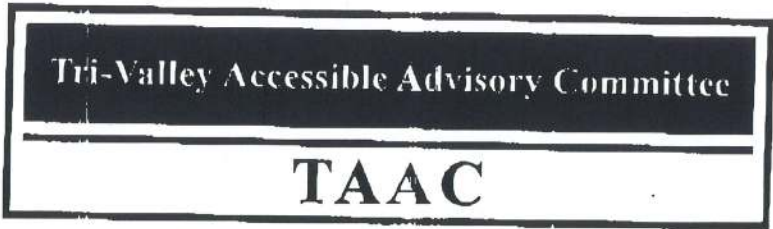
Recommendation

Approve these proposed changes with an implementation date of January 1, 2019.

Attachments:

1. Letter from TAAC Chair Herb Hastings
2. Written Public Comments Received
3. Resolution 28-2018

Approved: _____



September 26, 2018

This letter is to provide our feedback from the Tri-Valley Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) in regards to the proposed fare changes by staff.

The committee met on September 5th, 2018 at our regular scheduled TAAC meeting. During the meeting, TAAC members and LAVTA staff had a positive discussion in regards to the proposed fare changes.

During the meeting, TAAC made two modifications to the proposal. The first proposal is to modify the schedule of increases to the Senior/Disabled monthly pass. The modification would be to limit the overall cost increase to \$25 spaced over a two-year period. The second proposal is to increase the amount of time between fare increases on the Dial-A-Ride service.

Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass Increases:

January 1st, 2019 increase to \$22.00

January 1st, 2021 increase to \$25.00

No further increase to the cost of the Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass.

Dial-A-Ride Fare Increases

January 1st, 2019 increase to \$3.75

January 1st, 2021 increase to \$4.00

With the adoption of TAAC's recommendations into Staff's final fare increase proposal, TAAC is in support of the final fare increase proposal.

Sincerely,

Herb Hastings
Chair, TAAC

Written Public Comments Received

Steven Dunbar (8/26/2018):

Hello Wheels Staff, I wanted to chime in and say I support the fare changes being proposed fare changes to Day Passes and elimination of paper transfers, having seen first-hand the issues they cause when people see that their transfer is not valid, frustrating both the driver and the rider. I also support it because it will hopefully reduce confusion about fares, leading to increases in service speed. I am all too aware of the tough balance between a service that serves seniors/ADA users, children, and tourists, while still providing the speed and convenience for commuters and just people trying to get from place to place. I would suggest that LAVTA tries to add very clear directions on Day Passes both directly on the farebox and at popular stops, such as BART and the outlets, with easy to understand instructions. (Ex: Heading somewhere and then back on the same line? Taking longer than x hours? Ask the driver for a day pass) I would hope that LAVTA makes it clear at the outreach hearings that electronic transfers are not being discontinued, and to also make it clear what facilities will be available to distribute Clipper cards to seniors or others with little internet access. Clipper is a great system that should be encouraged for all users, but there is an initial barrier in getting a card and then keeping it loaded for those who don't have frequent internet access. If Clipper services are not already offered at the Livermore Transit Station, I would suggest adding them there. I have no opinion on Monthly Passes and Dial-a-Ride fees other than to say that the per-passenger subsidy of Dial-a-Ride is worrying but largely outside of LAVTA's control. Increasing the fare is a band-aid. Thanks for listening, Steven Dunbar

Greg Lingenfelder (8/27/2018):

Hello, I ride the bus every work day on my way home. I commute by bicycle in the morning, and ride bus occasionally in morning. The monthly pass is not worth it for me. Fare Buster ticket sheet is my only option for discount off of normal fare. Please consider bicycle commuters and offer some kind of bulk buying discount that Fare Buster provides.

John Collins (9/5/2018):

I disagree with two of your plans. First, I am no longer working and so I don't know if the \$1 BART discount still applies to those who use BART for a return trip. If it still does, then your plan to eliminate the Fare Buster tickets for all adults and instead offer only a day pass will increase a round trip cost for BART commuters from \$2.60 to \$3.75. Eliminating Fare Buster tickets will be one more reason for BART commuters to cease using Wheels. I suggest that you offer the Fare Buster tickets on-line to add to ones Clipper card. Clipper offers BART ticket discounts for Clipper cards and I am certain that you too can arrange discounts with Clipper. Second, I recommend that you continue the use of transfers automatically for Clipper card users. I believe that it is unfair to those to whom you don't provide single bus service to charge almost a second fare simply because your system fails to provide a single bus route to their destination. You should charge one fare to all passengers to get to their destination. Your concern of fare evasion will not be possible for those who use Clipper and must use more than one bus simply to get anywhere within the LAVTA service area. Therefore, your reason for eliminating transfers will not be valid.

Lisa Adamos (9/5/2018):

To whom it may concern, With regard to implementing a reduced Youth fare discount using the Clipper Card from the current \$1.75/ride to \$1.60/ride, I am in full support. It would save parents time from having to go to Safeway to purchase the Farebuster tickets and allow for more convenience to add funds via the Clipper Card website. We would also save \$3/month with the additional discount using Clipper Card. Thank you, Lisa Adamos

Stephanie Wilson-Goure (9/8/2018):

I support the fare increase for Wheels. I worked for a transit agency and understand the need to increase fares particularly if there has been no fare increase since 2009. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Dan Rosler (9/11/2018):

Hi, I'd like to provide this input to your planning process. I use the Wheels bus service to get to and from BART for work and use both the 10-ride books (which I get through WageWorks to save on taxes) and the BART-to-bus transfer discount on my Clipper Card to help with total commute costs. I know from some discussion on Nextdoor.com that there are other professionals like me who do the exact same. So please consider that it's not only students who are using the 10-ride books. And if the concern about offering transfer discounts is because of fraud with the paper tickets, please continue to offer transfers when using Clipper Card -- for which there can be no fraud. Thank you, Dan

Forrest Brown (9/11/2018):

I have two concerns with the new, proposed policy changes.

1) "It is proposed that the use of paper transfers be eliminated".

How is it proposed to deal with that portion of the revenue customers who are on a strictly cash basis? I see a lot of people every day shoveling dimes or quarters into the fare box. They obviously prefer cash, for whatever reason, to a Clipper Card or a Day Pass Option. A significant number of the general bus rider population appear to be those who do not have a lot of spare cash for alternative options as proposed.

2) "It is proposed that Fare Busters and Senior/Disabled tickets be eliminated".

A) See comments above with regards to that portion of the population that have limited access to Clipper Cards and prefer to be on a strictly cash basis.

B) It is unclear what the proposed policy will be with regards to those of use that have purchased blocks of Fare Buster tickets in advance, as it were. Will my existing blocks of 40 tickets become invalid on some arbitrary date? Will I still be able to use up my existing stock of tickets, or will I lose the monetary value that the blocks of tickets represent? Will I be able to get a refund for the current value of the tickets? Perhaps as a credit to a Clipper Card, assuming that I have one, or will the invalidation of my current stock of tickets represent a taking of personal property?

Your assistance in these matters is appreciated. Forrest Brown

Lynda Kinnard 9/11/2018):

Since the fleet of new buses cannot accept Fare Buster tickets, it is obvious that the plan to eliminate them was in the works before the test bus was approved and buses ordered. So "asking the public" may really just be an act to ease your collective consciences.

I do not use Wheels daily, but when I do, see some of the people who depend on this service and rely on it every day. Especially the elderly and those with physical challenges. As most of them are dependent on social security and other financial services for their survival, the proposed increases will create hardship for many of them. They have no control over their income, so should not be penalized, even if your costs increase. Eliminate this part of your plan, or adjust it, so it remains affordable for those without other transportation options.

As to fraudulent use of the paper tickets; such as the FareBuster tickets; it was your choice to have fare boxes that do not accept them. You selected the bus design and now you are sugar-coating the need to cover the costs.

And, I do not recall seeing any mention of plans for safe and convenient places for your customers to obtain and upload money onto the Clipper cards that you are encouraging them to use. Are there plans to have a few indoor kiosks for those without internet access, and don't take BART?

Thank you for your time and consideration, Lynda Kinnard

Shannon Fogerty (9/12/2018):

Hi there I'm looking at the proposed fare change pamphlet and I am actually curious about one thing that wasn't mentioned in there. If everything else goes up with this passing and I just wanted to find out if the Dial-a-Ride tickets sheet of 10 would still stay at the same price or would that supposedly increase too? Just wanted to make sure that I didn't miss anything important stuff as well. Let me know when you find out the info for my question please and thanks again Shannon Fogarty

Dan Lee (9/14/2018):

Once you increase the fare bus 8 will no longer be anything of a value. I can take an Uber pool to and from work for about the same price and Uber pool isn't late EVERY SINGLE DAY. I mean seriously why is this bus late every day by more than 10 minutes. It's not even a long route.

Mary West (9/16/2018):

I take BART to Berkeley for my work and I take the 10 to get to my house downtown by using the transfer that is in the BART station that makes the total ride affordable. Thank you to please consider these transfers during your rate adjustments and help those taking public transportation by keeping discounted bus rides for those taking BART instead of driving to the parking garage. Thanks! Mary

RESOLUTION NO. 28-2018

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
AUTHORIZING 2019 FARE POLICY CHANGES**

WHEREAS, LAVTA conducted a Fare Study that included an analysis of agency trends, the current fare structure, an examination of potential fare policy adjustments and associated ridership and revenue impacts, and

WHEREAS, staff developed a set of proposed Fare Policy Changes and has solicited and received public input on the proposed changes as requested by the LAVTA Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, staff has considered the input received and developed a final fare policy change proposal that includes several revisions to the original proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that the Board authorizes implementation of the January 2019 Fare Policy Changes as described in the accompanying staff report, and authorizes staff to implement these changes effective January 2019.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of October 2018.

Scott Haggerty, Chair

ATTEST:

Michael Tree, Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael Conneran, Legal Counsel

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2018 LAVTA BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Scott Haggerty at 4:03pm

2. Roll Call of Members

Members Present

David Haubert – Mayor, City of Dublin

Janine Thalblum – Councilmember, City of Dublin

Jerry Pentin – Councilmember, City of Pleasanton

Karla Brown – Councilmember, City of Pleasanton

Steven Spedowfski – Councilmember, City of Livermore

Bob Coomber – Councilmember, City of Livermore

Scott Haggerty – Supervisor, County of Alameda

3. Meeting Open to Public

David Haubert, Mayor from City of Dublin, arrived during Meeting Open to Public

Herb Hastings

Herb Hastings proposed involving a member of the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee to help establish the set-up for the new Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority train system and that would include the station and train to be properly designed for accessibility. Board Chair Scott Haggerty stated that the Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority was set-up by state legislation and in no way excludes Mr. Hastings from being involved by going to the meetings.

After the Meeting Open to Public, Agenda Item 10 and 5 was moved up on the agenda for the convenience of the group in managing the balance of the meeting.

10. Matters Initiated by the Board of Directors

Board Chair Scott Haggerty informed that LAVTA Board of Directors honored Diane Farner at the September 10, 2018 Board meeting where Resolution 26-2018 was passed, but Ms. Farner was unable to attend. Board Chair Scott Haggerty did a special recognition today of Diane Farner for her Wheels bus operator service from 1987 to 2018.

5. Consent Agenda

Recommend approval of all items on Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. **Minutes of the September 10, 2018 Board of Directors meeting.**
- B. **Preliminary Treasurer’s Report for August 2018**

The Board of Directors approved the August 2018 (preliminary) Treasurer’s Report.

Approved: Pentin/Coomber

Aye: Pentin, Brown, Coomber, Haggerty, Spedowski, Thalblum, Haubert

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

4. September Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee Minutes Report

Herb Hastings, Chair of the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC) reported on the minutes of the September 5, 2018 TAAC meeting. Discussed at the TAAC meeting included the change of the committee name with a recommendation and fixed route and Dial-A-Ride issues/suggestions for changes. The most important item discussed was the fare policy proposed changes. The TAAC drafted a letter and then Herb Hastings worked with Jonathan Stekete to draft the letter that was included in the October Board packet recommending a revision to the original proposed fare policy. The TAAC requested the Senior Monthly Pass/Disabled Monthly Pass fares to increase to \$22 in January 2019 and in 2021 to increase this fare to \$25. The DAR proposal is to increase from \$3.50 to \$3.75 in January 2019 and then wait until 2021 for another \$.25 increase to \$4.00. This is how the TAAC recommends the Board consider the fare proposal. Amy Mauldin, Vice Chair of the TAAC added that they thought the price increase was too much for seniors and disabled who are generally low income. After working with Jonathan Stekete they realized the monthly bus pass would have increased 66%. The TAAC also felt having increases each year over three years would be too confusing. It was also requested that after the monthly passes increase to \$25 that there would be no additional increases beyond this point.

6. Final Staff Proposed Fare Policy Changes

Staff informed that after Board approval in June, LAVTA initiated public outreach and the public input process for the proposed fare policy changes. Staff received 11 public comments including a letter from the TAAC and those were included in the packet for review. Staff is recommending for the following final fare policy changes:

- Eliminate transfers and replace with Day Pass
- Eliminate 10-ride tickets and replace with a Youth Clipper Card fare at the same rate
- Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass increase from \$18 to \$22 in January 2019 and then increase from \$22 to \$ 25 in January 2021 with no additional increase beyond this point
- Dial-A-Ride increase from \$3.50 to \$3.75 in January 2019 and delay the proposed increase to \$4.00 until January 2021

LAVTA's financial impact of the Senior/Disabled Monthly Pass fare change by capping it at \$25 versus \$30 would be zero impact in 2019, but by the time the pass would have gotten to \$30 versus \$25 the impact is \$8,000 a year.

LAVTA's financial impact of the Dial-A-Ride fare change by stretching that out to 2021 instead of 2020 is a onetime annual impact of \$13,550.

The item was discussed by the Board of Directors and staff.

The Board of Directors approved these proposed changes with an implementation date of January 1, 2019. Resolution 28-2018.

Approved: Haubert/Spedowfski

Aye: Pentin, Brown, Coomber, Haggerty, Spedowfski, Thalblum, Haubert

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

7. BART Early-Morning Service Plan and Bus Bridge

Staff informed the Board of Directors that the BART District is planning to begin their train service an hour later than currently on weekday mornings, so they can perform critical repairs to aging infrastructure in the system. BART staff is proposing an early morning bus bridge network and requested LAVTA's assistance between East Dublin/Pleasanton and Bay Fair. Staff expected two daily roundtrips to Bay Fair during the 4am hour after which the buses could be positioned to operate our local routes. BART would be expected to compensate LAVTA for the full cost of operating the service and there will likely be an agreement that is renewable for one year at a time until early morning service can be resumed. Staff received direction from the Projects and Services Committee, so this agenda item is more of an informational item.

The item was discussed by the Board of Directors and staff.

The Board of Directors approved in concept the request by the BART District for LAVTA to operate an early-morning bus bridge route on weekdays between the East Dublin / Pleasanton and Bay Fair stations, and direct staff to negotiate a draft agreement with BART District that fully compensates LAVTA for the additional services rendered. It is anticipated that the draft agreement would be considered by the LAVTA Board at a future meeting.

Approved: Pentin/Brown

Aye: Pentin, Brown, Coomber, Haggerty, Spedowfski, Thalblum, Haubert

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

8. 2018 FTA Triennial Review

Staff informed that every three years LAVTA and every other transit agency that is the recipient of FTA funding must have a triennial review. FTA Triennial Review is essentially an audit, but not just a financial audit. The Triennial Review covers everything: procurement, contract oversight, maintenance records, etc. Staff informed that out of 20 areas reviewed by the FTA LAVTA had one deficiency in Satisfactory Continuing Control in regard to the agencies spare ratio.

The FTA accepted LAVTA's corrective action plan to fix the deficiency.

The Board of Directors reviewed the 2018 FTA Triennial report.

Approved: Brown/Spedowfski

Aye: Pentin, Brown, Coomber, Haggerty, Spedowfski, Thalblum, Haubert

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

9. Management Action Plan

Executive Director Michael Tree provided the Board of Directors the Management Action Plan for review. Executive Director Michael Tree announced some important events coming up:

- LAVTA is being named the Transit Agency of the Year for the California Transit Association (CTA). The award will be presented at the CTA Conference in Long Beach on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 8:45am and Board Members are invited.
- The Historic Train Depot ribbon cutting ceremony is on Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 10am.
- The Dublin Parking Garage groundbreaking in on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 3pm.

Executive Director Michael Tree noted that for the first time since 2011 the average ridership during the weekday was over 7,000 in the month of September 2018, but the fare changes today will temper this ridership. It was also noted that LAVTA was approached to add cell towers on our property and we have been in negotiations for this project. Executive Director Michael Tree informed that there will be an agenda item soon one in regards to the SAV Project.

11. Next Meeting Date is Scheduled for: November 5, 2018

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.