

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Public Hearing: Wheels in Motion Proposed Scenario

FROM: Christy Wegener, Executive Director
Mike Tobin, Director of Operations

DATE: December 4, 2023

Action Requested

The Board of Directors will hold a public hearing to receive input on the Wheels in Motion proposed service changes.

Background

At the November Board meeting, staff presented a summary of the Wheels in Motion outreach and survey responses, and made a recommendation to the Board to advance Scenario 3 as the preferred scenario and open the public comment period. The Board agreed with staff's recommendation and took action to open the public comment period and set the public hearing date for December 4th to receive input on the Wheels in Motion proposed service changes.

Discussion

A public hearing provides a venue for Wheels riders, stakeholders, and the community to provide comments on the changes being proposed to the Wheels bus network as a part of the Wheels in Motion proposed scenario.

The proposed network would adjust Wheels bus frequencies to align with new BART train schedules and restore or introduce new routes to several areas that currently lack service, thereby expanding Wheels' "footprint". Central Dublin, East Dublin, and Southwest Livermore would benefit from new or restored bus services, with service every 40 minutes during extended peak-hours. Also, Route 15 would begin operating every 20 minutes during peak hours on weekdays, and weekend travelers would gain increased frequency on the Rapid routes, providing more flexibility and convenience. This redistribution of service would be possible with a slight reduction in the weekday frequency on the primary trunk lines (30R and 10R). More specifically, the proposed service changes include the following modifications:

Weekday service:

- Frequency adjustments:
 - Increase service on Route 15 to run every 20 minutes during rush hours (peak), and hourly during the midday

- Slightly decrease peak service on Routes 1, 3, 8 and 14 to run every 40 minutes, and on Routes 10R and 30R to run every 20 minutes
- Operate Route 10R service for one additional hour (until midnight)
- Introduce local service in Central Dublin, and Southwest Livermore every 40 minutes during extended peak hours
- Resume hourly service on Route 2 in East Dublin
- Resume limited peak service to East Livermore on Route 11
- Resume limited peak express service on Route 580X between Downtown Livermore and BART
- Extend Route 70X to the Hacienda Business Park

Weekend service:

- Increase service on Route 10R to run every 20 minutes on Saturdays and every 40 minutes on Sundays
- Increase service on Route 30R to run every 40 minutes on Saturdays; continue to run hourly on Sundays
 - Add new Central Dublin local service, operating every 40 minutes during the daytime on Saturdays

Since the November Board meeting, Wheels staff have been advertising the public hearing and the proposed scenario through a variety of channels. Notices were published in the following publications:

Publication	Posting Date
Pleasanton Weekly	November 12
Tri-Valley Herald	November 12
Valley Times	November 12
Livermore Independent	November 27

Local Tri-Valley radio station 101.7 KKIQ aired radio advertisements about the public hearing from November 20 – Dec. 4.

Details of the public hearing and proposed scenario were posted to the Wheelsbus.com website. Individual landing pages were created in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Tagalog and Korean. Public comment was directly solicited on each languages landing page through a web form.

Social Media including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter were utilized with “pinned” posts at the top of news feeds for the duration of the comment period. An announcement about the proposed scenario was made at the November Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC) meeting.

Flyers were delivered to all three City Halls, Senior Centers, Libraries, and Los Positas College in English and Spanish with quantities for redistribution. Printed public notices were displayed on the interior of all Wheels buses with public meetings & hearing dates and

locations in English and Spanish, with Chinese, Tagalog and Vietnamese available upon request. The LAVTA corporate office displayed posters in its reception area, and the Livermore Transit Center displayed posters in both its customer lobby and at the kiosks on the transit platform.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board hold the public hearing to receive input on the Wheels in Motion Proposed Scenario.