Livermore/Amador Valley Transit Authority

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### October 2016

#### 1. Altamont Regional Rail Working Group

Under the leadership of Scott Haggerty, the MTC Commissioners on September 28<sup>th</sup> approved \$660,000 in funding towards the hiring of an Executive for two years. The recruitment for the consultant is currently ongoing. The next Working Group meeting is November 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### 2. Shared Autonomous Vehicle Project

On October 19<sup>th</sup> the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BA AQMD) will vote on a \$1 million request from LAVTA to fund the agency's SAV project in the City of Dublin. Supervisor Haggerty is key in this funding request that will allow for the agency to purchase its first set of SAVs and conduct the testing needed. In return for the \$1 million over three years, LAVTA has agreed to allow a Spare the Air day message to be advertised on a small percentage of the LAVTA fleet.

#### 3. Implementation of Bus System Redesign

Staff is close to getting its first full calendar month of data to review how the Wheels bus system changes are performing. Going into the changes, the agency new that ridership would likely dip between 10% to 15%, and then slowly build for 18 months towards an increase in ridership of approximately 10% over pre-redesign changes. Staff is closely watching and reacting to the data and notes that on-time performance is an issue on multiple routes, including the 10R with 15 minute all day service. There have been several minor changes to the routes that have challenges with on-time performance and the agency is seeing improvement. In regard to ridership, staff anticipates a decrease of between 5% and 7% in September over last year's numbers, which is better than anticipated. Finally, Route 580X is new to the line-up with the redesign. Ridership is up nearly 40% since the first wave of direct mail to residents within a 5-minute walk of the two bus stops for this service were mailed, which is promising. An extensive report will be provided for the Board at their November meeting.

#### 4. <u>Comprehensive Paratransit Study</u>

Staff received four proposals and interviews are set for October 6<sup>th</sup> on this joint project with the City of Pleasanton. The contract is planned for approval in November, with the completion timeline set for December of 2017.

#### 5. FY2017 Management Action Plan

Attached to this staff report is the FY2017 Management Action Plan. Staff will be available at the board meeting to answer questions.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Management Action Plan w/Updates
- 2. Board Statistics August FY17
- 3. Fixed Route Passenger Satisfaction Survey 2016
- 4. FY17 Upcoming Committee Items

## FY2016 Goals, Strategies and Projects

Last Updated- September 20, 2016

#### Goal: Service Development

Strategies (those highlighted in bold indicate highest Board priority)

1. Provide routes and services to meet current and future demand for timely/reliable transit service

2. Increase accessibility to community, services, senior centers, medical facilities and jobs

3. Optimize existing routes/services to increase productivity and response to MTC projects and studies

4. Improve connectivity with regional transit systems and participate in BART to Livermore project

5. Explore innovative fare policies and pricing options

6. Provide routes and services to promote mode shift from personal car to public transit

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Long Range Transit Plan (Agency's 30 Year Plan)	<ul> <li>Receive draft Long Range Plan from Nelson/Nygaard</li> <li>Present final draft to Board</li> <li>Approval</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Jan 2017 Mar 2017 May 2017	→ <u>Awaiting the ACTC Park and Ride study</u> to complete in December to move forward with Long Range Plan.	
Follow-up Changes to COA Implementation	<ul> <li>Review ridership, passenger comments and on-time performance on a daily/weekly basis to determine issues that need to be resolved.</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Jun 2017	→ <u>Straightened out Route 14 in downtown</u> <u>Livermore in Sept. Also, added a run into</u> <u>the Livermore Labs on 30R to get workers</u> <u>into lab before 7am. Evaluating the linkage</u> <u>of Route 1 and Route 14. Evaluating 10R</u> <u>on-time performance and options.</u>	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Comprehensive Paratransit Assessment	<ul> <li>Award of Contract</li> <li>Public Outreach #1</li> <li>Public Outreach #2</li> <li>Approval of Recommendations</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Nov 2016 Apr 2017 Sept 2017 Jan 2018	→ <u>RFP being advertised. Interviews</u> scheduled for October.	
Fare Study	<ul> <li>Draft Fare Study</li> <li>Public Hearing</li> <li>Board Approval</li> <li>Implementation of Fare Changes</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Jan 2017 Mar 2017 July 2017	→ <u>Nelson/Nygaard currently creating the</u> draft fare study	
Signalization Improvements And Queue Jumps On Dublin Blvd	<ul> <li>Award contract for signal control</li> <li>Award contract for queue jump</li> <li>Finish project</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Jul 2016 Jan 2017 Jun 2017	→ <u>MTC providing planning on project.</u> LAVTA Board awarded contract for signal control to WPS in July.	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Wheels On Demand Discount Program	<ul> <li>Get clearance from FTA</li> <li>Sign Agreements with providers</li> <li>Implement</li> </ul>	ED	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Oct 2016 Oct 2016	→ Project description sent to FTA for approval before signing agreements with providers	
<ol> <li>Continue to build the W</li> <li>Improve the public image</li> <li>Increase two-way commuted</li> </ol>	hted in bold indicate highest Boa heels brand image, identity and valu and awareness of Wheels nication between Wheels and its custor cularly on the Rapid, to fully attain b	e for cust	omers chieved through	-	-	Task
Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Website V2.0 Upgrades	<ul> <li>Speed up website</li> <li>Develop video library</li> <li>Revise homepage for quicker access to commuter info</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Nov 2016 Feb 2016 Feb 2016	→ Currently negotiating contract with provider to speed up website.	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
V2.0 of Timetables and Schedules With Route Changes	<ul> <li>Create second version of timetables and route changes to implement new rebranding and fix route issues from COA implementation</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Dec 2016	→ <u>This project will begin after rebranding</u> study and after identification of significant route changes.	
Social Media Engagement	<ul> <li>Development of LAVTA goals with Facebook, Twitter, and other social media outlets such as Linkedin, YouTube and Tumblr</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Jun 2016	→Goals is to go from 550 likes to 1,000 during fiscal year and have 3% engagement. Also, set up YouTube library, and have 2-3 posts on facebook, linkedlin, Twitter daily. This week agency broke the 600 barrier in likes on Facebook. Photo contest for Las Positas College on Facebook underway.	
Phone App w/Real Time Info	<ul> <li>Advertise RFP</li> <li>Contract Award</li> <li>Introduce Phone App to public</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Dec 2016 Aug 2017	→ <u>RFP being reviewed by legal.</u>	
Wi-Fi Project	<ul> <li>Install Wi-Fi on Rapid and Express buses</li> <li>Introduce Wi-Fi to the public through media</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Nov 2016	→ <u>Wi-Fi currently being installed on older</u> <u>Rapid buses. Software being configured.</u>	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Wayfinding at BART Stations	<ul> <li>Plan new wayfinding signage</li> <li>Install signage</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Dec 2016	→ <u>Signage included in FY 2017 budget.</u> <u>Signage agreed to by BART.</u>	
LAVTA Rebranding Project	<ul> <li>Award of contract</li> <li>Surveying and Focus Groups</li> <li>Draft naming of services to Board</li> <li>Approval final naming and rebranding</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Jun 2016 Aug 2016 Nov 2016 Jan 2017	→ PAVLOV awarded contract. Community survey done. Focus groups done. <u>Additional community survey on narrow list</u> of names done. P&S Committee to discuss in Sept and provide direction.	x
Individualized Marketing	<ul> <li>Award Contract</li> <li>Development of collateral</li> <li>Public Outreach Campaign</li> <li>Review of results</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Mar 2017 Aug 2017 Oct 2017	→ Proposals and recommendation to be discussed at Sept P&S Committee and Oct Board meeting.	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
580X	<ul> <li>Direct Mailing #1</li> <li>Door Hangers</li> <li>Direct Mailing #2</li> <li>Banner</li> <li>Radio/Print</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Oct 2016 Nov 2016 Nov 2016 Ongoing	→ <u>Website slider and page created.</u> <u>Commuter coaches delivered. The first</u> <u>direct mailing was delivered. Ridership</u> <u>doubled to 5.9 rides per hour. Goal is 15</u> <u>rides per hour.</u>	x
Wheels On Demand Discount Program	<ul> <li>Develop webpage slider and page</li> <li>Direct mailing #1</li> <li>Direct mailing #2</li> <li>Radio and print adds</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Aug 2016 Nov 2016 Jan 2016 Ongoing	→ <u>Webpage under development. Direct</u> mailing under development. Awaiting FTA approval of program for implementation.	
Relocated Rapid Shelters No Longer Served By Rapid	<ul> <li>Engineering work</li> <li>Bid relocation work</li> <li>Improvements to site</li> <li>Relocation of shelters</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Nov 2016 Dec 2016 Jan 2017 Feb 2017	→ Engineering service proposals being received. Final relation plan being developed.	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Dispose of Shelters Past Useful Life No Longer Served By Route	<ul> <li>Identify shelters</li> <li>Procure contractor</li> <li>Dispose of shelters</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Oct 2016 Nov 2016	$\rightarrow$ <u>Awaiting burn in period with new routes</u> to make sure no route modifications are <u>needed</u> . Staff has identified shelters past useful life that need to be disposed.	X
Remove Bus Stop Signage No Longer Served By Routes	<ul> <li>Removal of bus stop signs by MV</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016	→ Currently 72 stops have temporary no service signs affixed too bus signs/pole. Signs will be removed in Sept and Oct.	
Relocate Shelters Not Past Useful Life That Are On Routes No Longer Served	<ul> <li>Identify shelters</li> <li>Identify new locations for shelters</li> <li>Make site improvements</li> <li>Relocate shelters</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Oct 2016 Jan 2017 Feb 2017	→ <u>Shelters identified. Staff awaiting</u> ridership #s from route improvements to determine new locations for shelters. Currently, shelters have signage on them indicating that they are no longer served.	x
Replace Shelters Past Useful Life That Are On Current Routes	<ul> <li>Identify shelters</li> <li>Bid fabrication of new shelters</li> <li>Install</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Jan 2016 Apr 2016	$\rightarrow$ <u>Shelters being identified.</u> Current plan is <u>to replace them with metro style shelters to</u> <u>accommodate artwork.</u>	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Rehabilitate Rapid Benches (wood)	<ul><li>Award contract</li><li>Finish contract</li></ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Nov 2016 Mar 2017	$\rightarrow$ There are more than 50 wood benches that need to be stained and clear coat applied. Working on bid specifications.	
Rehabilitate Rapid Shelters And Signage With Rust	<ul><li>Award contract</li><li>Finish Contract</li></ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Nov 2016 Apr 2017	→ <u>Correct rust issues on Rapid shelters and</u> monument signage.	
Purchase And Install Light Kits	<ul> <li>Identify shelters in need of light kits</li> <li>Delivery of light kits</li> <li>Complete Installation of light kits</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Nov 2016 Nov 2016 Jan 2017	→ <u>Currently awaiting ridership numbers</u> from route improvements to determine shelters to receive light kits.	
Get Caught Up On Deferred Maintenance of Bus Shelters	<ul> <li>Monitor spreadsheet of deferred maintenance to ensure maintenance is completed by end of FY2017</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Jun 2017	→ <u>Staff currently monitoring spreadsheet</u> containing deficiencies.	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
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#### Goal: Community and Economic Development

- Strategies (those highlighted in bold indicate highest Board priority)
  1. Integrate transit into local economic development plans
  2. Advocate for increased TOD from member agencies and MTC
  3. Partner with employers in the use of transit to meet TDM goals & requirements

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
ACTC: Measure BB Transit Student Pass Program	<ul> <li>Assist ACTC in promoting the student passes</li> <li>Monitor effectiveness of the program and capacity issues</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Ongoing Ongoing	→ Currently 66 passes sold. Staff monitoring opportunities to assist promotion.	
Las Positas College Student, Faculty, Staff Pass Program	<ul> <li>Relocate Rapid shelters</li> <li>Implement Pass</li> <li>Marketing campaign on campus</li> <li>Review analytics and create long-term purchase plan from college</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Aug 2016 Aug 2016 Ongoing Jan 2017	→ Installed shelters and implemented Easy Pass. First two weeks ridership doubled over previous year. Goal is to increase ridership 7X over last year and seek long- term funding for the pass. Marketing to date includes e-blasts, web slider/page, LPC web link, yard signs, ambassadors on campus weekly.	x x
Charter School Easy Pass Program	<ul> <li>High School Relocation</li> <li>Implementation of Pass</li> <li>Promotion by HS</li> <li>Review analytics and create long term funding plan</li> </ul>	MKT MGR	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Oct 2016 Ongoing Mar 2016	→ <u>High School recently moved to new</u> <u>location on 30R. Discussing with</u> administration the Easy Pass.	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Plan For TOD Project At Livermore Transit Center	<ul> <li>Tour of TC area by Projects and Services Committee</li> <li>Apply for planning grant jointly with City</li> </ul>	РМ	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Oct 2016	→ <u>Staff discussing with Council Members</u> from Livermore	
Historic Train Depot Relocation at Livermore Transit Center	<ul> <li>City Award of Project</li> <li>Demo of TC Customers Service Buildings</li> <li>Finish Relocation/Renovation</li> </ul>	РМ	Projects/ Services	Nov 2016 Dec 2016 Oct 2017	→ <u>City in process of releasing bid</u> documents for project. FTA clearance given to demo current customer service buildings.	

#### Goal: Regional Leadership

Strategies (those highlighted in bold indicate highest Board priority)
1. Advocate for local, regional, state, and federal policies that support mission of Wheels
2. Support staff involvement in leadership roles representing regional, state, and federal forums

3. Promote transit priority initiatives with member agencies

4. Support regional initiatives that support mobility convenience

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Altamont Regional Rail Working Group	<ul> <li>Hire Executive Consultant</li> <li>Strategic planning and implementation by Working Group</li> </ul>	ED	Projects/ Services	Oct 2015 Mar 2017	→ Currently advertising for Exec position. MTC Commission to consider approval of funding on Sept 28 <sup>th</sup> . On tract to hire position in October.	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
2017 Legislative Plan	<ul> <li>Research on common issues within regional planning agencies and transit agencies</li> <li>Creation of 2017 Legislative Plan and review/approval by the Board and provide support for key legislation.</li> </ul>	Exec Dir	Finance/ Admin	Dec 2016 Jan <u>201</u> 7	→ <u>Research being done on emerging</u> priorities at local, state and federal level. 2017 Legislative Plan to be approved by <u>Board in January. Staff monitoring new</u> legislative cycle.	

#### Goal: Organizational Effectiveness

Strategies (those highlighted in bold indicate highest Board priority)

1. Promote system wide continuous quality improvement initiatives

2. Continue to expand the partnership with contract staff to strengthen teamwork and morale and enhance the quality of service

3. Establish performance based metrics with action plans for improvement; monitor, improve, and report on-time performance and productivity

4. HR development with focus on employee quality of life and strengthening of technical resources

5. Enhance and improve organizational structures, processes and procedures to increase system effectiveness

6. Develop policies that hold Board and staff accountable, providing clear direction through sound policy making decisions

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Install Updated Version Of Viewpoint Software	<ul><li>Install software update</li><li>Training on Software</li></ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Sept 2016	→ <u>Software installed and training to take</u> place in third week of September. Software will allow staff to better monitor system performance.	
Performance Metrics Improvement	<ul> <li>Staff setting up aggressive monitoring of key performance metrics: on- time performance, accidents and customer service.</li> </ul>	DP	Projects/ Services	July 2016	→ <u>Staff to begin monitoring through</u> <u>Viewpoint. Weekly meeting to discuss key</u> <u>metrics at staff level.</u>	

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
MTM Contract Oversight	<ul> <li>Staff reviewing monthly statistics to ensure accuracy</li> <li>Staff working with contractor on seven focus areas to ensure only those using service are those eligible</li> </ul>	PD	Projects/ Services	Ongoing Ongoing	→ <u>Contractor has recently purchased</u> <u>Trapeze software. Statistics appear to be</u> <u>accurate. Staff monitoring. Eligibility</u> <u>interviews being conducted. Paratransit</u> <u>assessment being procured.</u>	
MV Contract Oversight	<ul> <li>Create and Implement Monitoring Plan of Contract</li> <li>Provide updates to Board on key trends</li> </ul>	AS	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Ongoing	→ In process of creating monitoring plan.	
MV Contract Oversight Goal: Financial Manage	on key trends	AS			→ In process of creating monitoring plan.	

Strategies (those highlighted in bold indicate highest Board priority) 1. Develop budget in accordance with strategic Plan, integrating fiscal review processes into all decisions

Explore and develop revenue generating opportunities
 Maintain fiscally responsible long range capital and operating plans

Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
FY16 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report	<ul> <li>Complete financial audit and all required reporting to Board, local, regional and state agencies.</li> </ul>	DA	Finance/ Admin	Dec 2016	$\rightarrow$ Audit to be completed in Sept 2016. Final presentations to Board Dec 2016.	

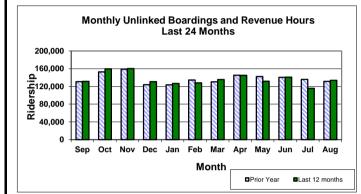
Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
Other:		_				
Transit Center Concrete Project In Bus Driving Isle	<ul> <li>Perform demo of asphalt and construction of concrete in driving isle.</li> </ul>	PM	Projects/ Services	Apr 2017	→ Utilizing City concrete contract. Asphalt to be removed and construction completed in April of 2017.	
Administrative Offices Asphalt and ADA Project	<ul><li>Award Contract</li><li>Finish Improvements</li></ul>	РМ	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Nov 2016	→Project being rebid in September.	
SAV Project	<ul> <li>Acquire funding to begin project</li> <li>Acquire legislation to test SAVs.</li> <li>Purchase SAVs for testing.</li> </ul>	PD	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Dec 2017 Feb 2018	→ <u>Staff is working with AQMD to acquire \$1</u> <u>million in funding in exchange for</u> <u>advertising. Staff monitoring Governor and</u> <u>the pending legislation that will allow Bishop</u> <u>Ranch testing of SAVs.</u>	
Replace Steam Bay Lift	<ul><li>Bid project</li><li>Complete install</li></ul>	DA	Projects/ Services	Oct 2016 Jan 2017	→ <u>The bus lift in the steam room used to</u> clean engines and undercarriage of buses recently failed. It is past it's useful life and staff is evaluating budget to replace. Estimated cost of \$175,000.	

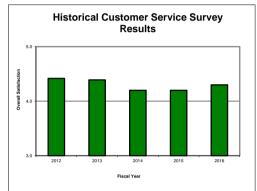
Projects	Action Required	Staff	Board Committee	Target Date	Status	Task Done
2017 Gillig Bus Purchase (20 buses)	<ul> <li>Award contract for bus purchase</li> <li>Board approval on bus purchases</li> <li>Delivery of buses</li> </ul>	DA	Projects/ Services	Sept 2016 Nov 2016	→ Board approved contract with Gillig for future bus purchases. Board to consider purchase order for buses in October or November for a delivery date in May from new Gillig factory.	x

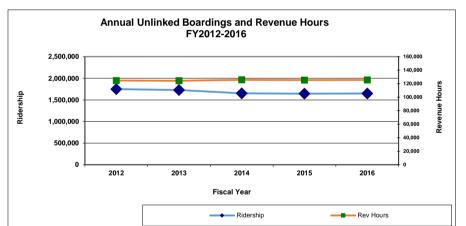
#### Attachment 2

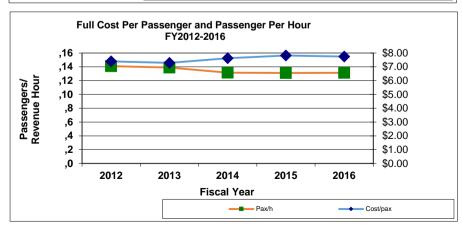
# Monthly Summary Statistics for Wheels

	A	igust 2016	)			
	FI	XED ROUTE	3			
	Au	gust 2016		% change	e from one ye	ar ago
Total Ridership FY 2017 To Date			-3.9%			
Total Ridership For Month	133,822			1.8%		
Fully Allocated Cost per Passenger		5.8%				
	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Average Daily Ridership	5,256	1,799	1,431	-2.0%	-19.9%	-5.8%
Passengers Per Hour	12.6	11.2	10.0	-1.7%	-6.7%	-24.9%
	August 2	016		% chan	ge from last n	nonth
On Time Performance	77.7%	, D			-3.4%	









#### **Monthly Summary Statistics for Wheels**

August 2016						
	PAR	ATRANSI	Т			
General Statistics	August 2016	% Change from last year	Year to Date			
Total Monthly Passengers	4,810	-7.2%	9,122			
Average Passengers Per Hour	1.80	5.9%	3.70			
On Time Performance	96.4%	-0.4%	193.10%			
Cost per Trip	\$31.72	-2.4%	64			
Number of Paratransit Applications	48	118.2%	105			
Calls Answered in <1 Minute	78.90%	-7.9%	151.10%			
			-			

Missed Services Summary	August 2016	Year to Date
1st Sanction - Phone Call	12	17
2nd Sanction - Written Letter	2	2
3rd Sanction - 15 Day Suspension	0	0
4th Sanction - 30 Day Suspension	0	0
5th Sanction - 60 Day Suspension	0	0
6th Sanction - 90 Day Suspension	0	0



# Monthly Summary Statistics for Wheels

		August	2016					
			SAFETY					
ACCIDENT DATA	TA Augus					Fiscal Yea		
		ixed Route	-	ransit	Fixed R	oute		transit
Total	5		0		6	_	0	
Preventable	4		0		5	_	0	
Non-Preventable	1		0		1		0	
Physical Damage			0		0		0	
Major Minor	0 5		0		0	-	0	
Bodily Injury	5				0			
Yes	0		0		0		0	
No	5		0		6	-	0	
	0				Ū		Ŭ	
MONTHLY CLAIMS ACTIVITY		Totals	1					
Amount Paid		Totalo						
This Month		\$25,316.09						
To Date This Fiscal Year		\$40,523.15	1					
		, .,	1					
Budget		\$100,000.00	1					
% Expended		41%						
			1					
		CUSTOMER SER	VICE - ADM	INISTRATIO	N			
CATECODY		Number of Req						
CATEGORY	A	ugust 2016	Year 1	o Date				
Praise		1		1				
Bus Stop		5	7					
Incident		0		0				
Trip Planning		4		5				
Fares/Tickets/Passes		0		0				
Route/Schedule Planning		48	1	65				
Marketing/Website		7		0				
ADA		1		2				
TOTAL		66	ç	00				
		CUSTOMER SE		ERATIONS		DADAT		
CATEGORY	VALID	FIXED ROU		VALID YEAR TO DATE	VALID	PARATI		VALID YEAR TO DATE
Draine	4	0			0	0		
Praise	1 1	0	0	3 1	0	0	0	1
Safety Driver/Dispatch Courtesy	1	6 3	1	1	0	0	0	0
Driver/Dispatch Courtesy Early	5	1	0	2 6	0	0	0	0
Late	28	3	2	32	2	2	0	2
No Show	7	5	0	12	0	0	0	0
Incident	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driver/Dispatch Training	3	1	2	3	1	0	1	1
Maintenance	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Bypass	1	20	6	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	47	39	12	61	3	2	2	3
Valid Complaints								· · ·
Per 10,000 riders		3.51						
Per 1,000 riders						0.0	52	

Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority

# STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Fixed Route Passenger Satisfaction Survey 2016

FROM: Cyrus Sheik, Senior Transit Planner

DATE: September 19, 2016

#### **Action Requested**

This is an informational item only.

#### Background

LAVTA conducts an annual on-board fixed-route passenger survey to gauge passenger satisfaction in order to continually improve the quality of its service. The results of the surveys are also used to calculate service quality standard indicators upon which the operations contractors' annual incentives are based. Both fixed route as well as paratransit riders are surveyed; this report discusses the results from the fixed route survey.

#### Discussion

#### Methodology

This year's survey was conducted during the months of June and July, 2016, prior to the major service (COA) changes that were implemented on August 13. To complete the survey, LAVTA hired temporary staff as well as deployed interns to ride Wheels buses and administer the survey to passengers. These surveyors boarded mainline routes and asked each boarding passenger if they would like to complete a Wheels customer satisfaction survey. Surveyed trips were focused on the trunk routes, Routes 10 and 30 (Rapid), but also included surveying the shorter local routes. A total of 215 completed surveys were received.

The survey questionnaire (Attachment 1) was based on the basic customer service survey LAVTA uses each year, and was provided to passengers in English and Spanish.

#### Survey Results

The full tally of the 2016 survey results is shown in Attachment 2. The core item in the survey related to quality-of-service aspects, such as schedule adherence, cleanliness of buses, and driver courtesy, while the remainder of questions addressed rider profile, such as age and household income. As the 2016 survey was similar to ones undertaken in recent years, a meaningful trend comparison can be made; however, note that as last year's (2015) survey was done as part of the COA study and tallied slightly differently, some of the rider profile indicators from this year's survey will be compared with the survey undertaken in 2014.

<u>Quality of service:</u> As in recent years past, respondents this year gave the Wheels service fairly high marks on quality-of-service aspects, as indicated by their scoring on a 1-5 scale where 1 is the worst and 5 is the best. All of the service quality aspects were given a 3 point grading or better by 93% of the respondents, a 4 point grading or better by 72%, and an excellent (5) rating by 39% or better of those surveyed.

The area that was given the highest share of excellence was whether passengers felt safe when riding the bus, while that related to on-time performance received the lowest relative share. Passengers' opinion rating of the Wheels service across the board averaged a 4.3 point score on the 1-5 scale.

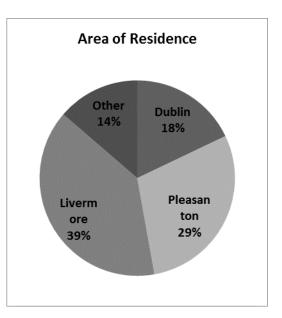
These results appear to be indicative of a high degree of customer satisfaction with the Wheels service overall, and in this year's survey, every quality indicator except one received a higher average score than last year. The average across all quality-of-service scorings went from 4.2 last year to 4.3 this year; the average score was also higher within all of of the nine individual quality areas probed in the survey, except in the area of driver friendliness / helpfulness.

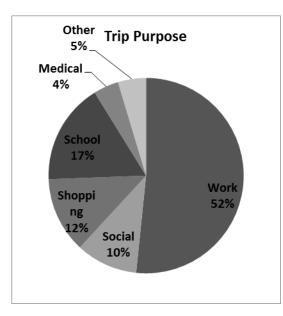
As in all years that the current survey format has been used, all quality rating areas continued to receive scores exceeding the agency-adopted goal of 4.0.

Quality Ratings	1	2	3	4	5	Avg	Last yr
Service operates on time	1%	4%	24%	33%	39%	4.1	4.0
Feel safe when riding the bus	0%	1%	5%	21%	73%	4.7	4.4
Drivers are helpful and friendly	0%	6%	15%	28%	50%	4.2	4.3
Route / service information easy to use	1%	3%	17%	25%	54%	4.3	4.2
Buses are clean and well maintained	0%	2%	11%	30%	56%	4.4	4.2
Transit Center is safe and secure	1%	2%	10%	26%	61%	4.4	4.1
Bus stops clean and well maintained	1%	3%	16%	25%	55%	4.3	4.1
Customer service staff friendly and helpful	1%	6%	10%	32%	52%	4.3	4.2
Overall opinion of Wheels service	0%	0%	5%	48%	46%	4.4	4.3
Total						4.3	4.2

The adjacent table summarizes the quality-of-service scores given by passengers in this year's survey about Wheels.

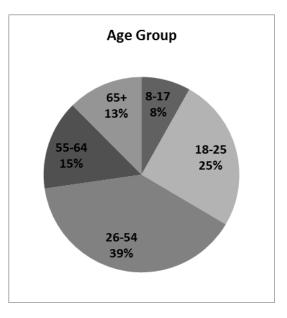
<u>Area of residence</u>: Turning now to the rider profile-related questions, over two-thirds of respondents (68%) indicated either Livermore or Pleasanton as their primary residence, while 18 percent stated Dublin as their home. 14 percent indicated another municipality or city, broken down as follows as number of persons in alphabetical order: Alameda (1), Castro Valley (3), Danville (1), Fremont (2), Hayward (3), Oakland (5), Oakley (1), Pittsburg (1), San Leandro (2), San Ramon (4), Stockton (1), San Francisco (1), and Tracy (4).

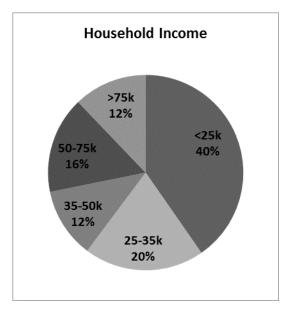




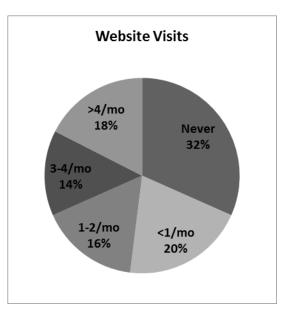
<u>Trip purpose</u>: More than half of the passengers surveyed (52%) indicated "work" as their trip purpose – relatively consistent with recent survey year findings. "School" and "shopping" was indicated by 17% and 12% of respondents, respectively, while other trip purposes such as "social" and "medical" each were cited by 10% or less of respondents. [It should be noted that school tripper routes were not surveyed as part of this effort, so these results will understate the overall "school" trip purpose to a certain extent.]

Age: The age distribution of respondents was somewhat similar to that found in previous surveys, with individuals under 18 and over 65 each comprising relatively small percentages of the overall ridership sampled (at 8% and 13%, respectively). 39 percent of this year's respondents were in the central age group category of 26-54 years of age, and an additional 25 percent was made up of the 18-25 age category. Although seniors are still not a big rider group within LAVTA's fixed route service, the trend over the past decade has been that the 65+ Wheels ridership percentage is increasing – and indeed the percentage of respondents in the 65+ category this year was almost double that seen in the 2014 survey (13% vs. 7%).





Household income: When asked about annual income, a majority of respondents (60%) indicated household earnings of under \$35,000 per year. 28% stated incomes in the \$35,000 to \$75,000 range, with only the remaining 12% indicating household incomes above the \$75,000 mark. Although the Wheels riders have traditionally been found to be from low-income households, the income distribution has shifted somewhat upward from the 2014 survey when 57% of respondents were in the sub-25k bracket, and only 7% were in the 75k+ bracket. <u>Wheels website visits</u>: Up until a few years ago, the long-term trend had been one of increased awareness and usage of the Wheels website and by 2013, 74% of respondents indicated that they visit the Wheels website, albeit with varying frequency. However, in the 2014 survey, 69% indicated visiting the Wheels website at least on occasion, while 31% stated that they never visit the website. And this year, the reverse trend continued, with 32% stating that they never visit the Wheels website – and of the remainder, the percentage of riders who visit the site more than four times a month decreased from 21 to 18 percent.



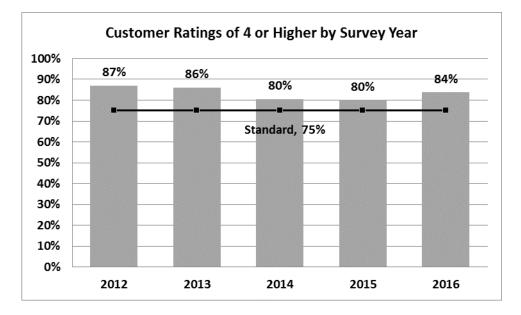


<u>Trip without Wheels</u>: Passengers were asked how they would have made their current trip without the bus. A large majority of respondents (82%) indicated that they would have been able to get around using other means of transportation, while 18% stated that they would not have made the trip. Of the 82% that indicated alternative means to get around, 20% said that they would have walked, 19% stated that they could have gotten a ride, and 13% stated taxi as an alternative. The most notable shift compared with the 2014 survey was that the passengers stating that they would be able to walk as an alternative to taking the bus went down 10 percentage points from 2014.

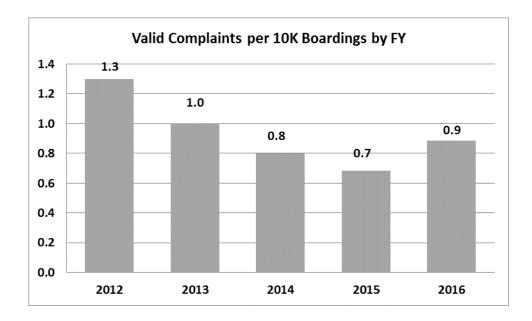
<u>Open comments</u>: 103 of the 215 passengers surveyed took the opportunity to provide openended comments at the end of the survey form. Most of the comments addressed a broad spectrum of issues, although some recurring themes were present, such as requests for longer service hours and improved passenger information. Common operational topics included issues about schedule adherence (late buses) and customer service. A number of respondents also stated concern regarding the major service changes for fall 2016, which had been published but not yet implemented at the time the surveys were taken. The entire set of open comments received is shown in Attachment 3.

#### Recent-Years Trend Comparison

The following chart shows the five-year trend for overall customer satisfaction, as well as compares it to the agency's standard of receiving an average score of 4 or better from 75% of survey respondents. In this year's survey, 84% of the total pool of scores received were 4 or 5. This is lower than what was seen four and five years ago when customers graded the service in the 86-87% range, but is an improvement over 2014 and 2015 when an overall 4+ rating of 80% was received.



Although not data collected from the annual onboard survey, for illustration purposes the next chart shows the number of valid customer complaints per 10,000 boardings for the past five fiscal years. It shows that valid complaints trended downward thru FY2015, but increased in FY2016, going from a rate of 0.7 valid customer complaints per 10,000 boardings in FY2015 to 0.9 valid customer complaints per 10,000 boardings in FY2016. ["Valid" complaints often pertain to operational issues that can be either confirmed or dismissed, such as bypasses, early timepoint departures, speeding, and driver courtesy.]



#### **Remarks / Summary**

As the results described above show, the Wheels fixed route service is continuing to receive nominally high remarks in all quality-of-service aspects that are probed in the annual onboard passenger survey, and the average respondent this year scored the service quality slightly higher across the board than last year. The item that received the highest rating this year was in the areas of passengers feeling safe while riding the bus (4.7), while the item that received the lowest relative rating was the on-time performance of buses (4.1).

The Wheels ridership base continues to be from low-income households, albeit somewhat less so than in recent years. However, as the responses to the trip-without-Wheels question indicate, most riders stated that they might have had alternative means of getting to their destination and are not entirely captive to the service.

Past studies have indicated that the Wheels ridership base is relatively young, and has a high turnover rate in terms of ridership. The coarse scale used in the annual survey regarding riders' age makes it difficult to draw firm trend conclusions, but other surveys and observations indicate that the Wheels ridership base continues to be relatively young. And senior riders (individuals aged 65 or over) in the system still represent a small, but growing, ridership group in the Wheels fixed route system.

#### Recommendation

None – information only.

Attachments:

- Survey form (English version)
   Detailed summary of results
   Open-ended comments

### WHEELS – PASSENGER SURVEY 2016

**ATTACHMENT 1** 

#### 1. Which general area do you live? Check ONE.

#### 2. Please rate Wheels Service using a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the worst (strongly disagree) and 5 being the best (strongly agree).

Question	Score (1-5)
Transit services operate on-time	
I feel safe when riding the bus	
Drivers are helpful and friendly	
Route / Service Information is easy to use	
Buses are clean and well-maintained	
Transit Center is safe and secure	
Bus Stops are clean and well maintained	
Transit Center (& Telephone) staff are friendly and helpful	
Overall opinion of Wheels service	

#### 3. What was the main purpose in making your trip today? Check ONE.

Work	· ·	School	•	v	
Social Visit		Medical			
Shopping		_Other (please s	specify	•	)

#### 4. What is your age?

8-17	U	55-64
18-25		65+
26-54		

5. What is your annual household	6. How often do you visit <u>www.wheelsbus.com</u> ?
income?	5 or more times in the last month
Under \$25,000	3-4 times in the last month
\$25,000-\$34,999	1-2 times in the last month
\$35,000-\$49,999	Less than once per month
\$50,000-\$74,999	Never
\$75,000+	

#### 7. How would you have made your current trip without the bus? Check ONE.

Walk	Bike
Drive myself	Get a ride
Take a taxi	I would not have made this trip

#### Please provide Wheels Management with your thoughts on how our service works for you and/or how we may improve our service.

#### WHEELS PASSENGER SURVEY RESULTS 2016

1. Area of Residence	Dublin	Pleasanton	Livermore	Other	Tot resp	_			
	38	62	83	29	212	_			
	18%	29%	39%	14%					
								Total	
2. Quality Rating								Responses	Total
	1	2	3	4	5	n/a	Avg Score	Received	Points
Service operates on time	1	7	48	66	78	15	4.1	200	813
Feel safe when riding the bus	0	3	10	42	149	11	4.7	204	949
Drivers are helpful and friendly	1	13	30	56	101	13	4.2	201	846
Route / service information easy to use	2	7	34	51	110	11	4.3	204	872
Buses are clean and well maintained	0	5	23	62	114	11	4.4	204	897
Transit Center is safe and secure	2	4	19	51	117	22	4.4	193	856
Bus stops clean and well maintained	2	6	32	51	111	13	4.3	202	869
Customer service staff friendly and helpful	2	11	18	60	98	26	4.3	189	808
Overall opinion of Wheels service	1	1	11	96	93	13	4.4	202	885
Quality rating from above as percentages:									
	1	2	3	4	5	Avg Score	Last year		
Service operates on time	1%	4%	24%	33%	39%	4.1	4.0	200	
Feel safe when riding the bus	0%	1%	5%	21%	73%	4.7	4.4	204	
Drivers are helpful and friendly	0%	6%	15%	28%	50%	4.2	4.3	201	
Route / service information easy to use	1%	3%	17%	25%	54%	4.3	4.2	204	
Buses are clean and well maintained	0%	2%	11%	30%	56%	4.4	4.2	204	
Transit Center is safe and secure	1%	2%	10%	26%	61%	4.4	4.1	193	
Bus stops clean and well maintained	1%	3%	16%	25%	55%	4.3	4.1	202	
Customer service staff friendly and helpful	1%	6%	10%	32%	52%	4.3	4.2	189	
Overall opinion of Wheels service	0%	0%	5%	48%	46%	4.4	4.3	202	
3. Trip Purpose	Work	Social	Shopping	School	Medical	Other	Tot resp		
	111	22	27	36	9	10	215	-	
	52%	10%	13%	17%	4%	5%			
4. Age	8-17	18-25	26-54	55-64	65+	Tot resp			
	17	53	82	31	26	209			
	8%	25%	39%	15%	12%	200			
C Income	-051		05 501		. 751.	<b>T</b> . 4			
5. Income	<25k 73	25-35k 36	35-50k 21	50-75k 29	>75k 22	Tot resp 181			
	73 40%	20%	12%	29 16%		101			
	40%	20%	12%	10%	12%				
6. Website Visits	Never	<1/mo	1-2/mo	3-4/mo	>4/mo	Tot resp			
	56	36	29	25	31	177			
	32%	20%	16%	14%	18%				
7. Trip without Wheels?	Walk	Drive	Taxi	Bike	Get Ride	No Trip	Tot resp	_	
	43	38	28	27	40	38	214	-	
	20%	18%	13%	13%	19%	18%			

Total surveys received = 215

#### ATTACHMENT 2

ATTACHMENT 3
General Comments
Overall, it's good.
As of August 13th the Route is changing for bus no. 3. Could you please continue service through Amador or provide some alternative?
They are perfect.
I travel in Route 3 from Amada lakes to BART. I wish this route stays after Aug. 13. Have clear maps for clear understanding.
Please don't take away this route. This is the only route I have. If your taking away please replace with some other bus for this route.
Route #3 should exist as it is. We don't want to change. How will people like me come from San Ramon Senior Center when this route
will be terminated from 13th August. Not a good change.
win be terminated noin 15th Adgust. Not a good change.
Need gathere same at each hanch. Need everteed cover at each hanch. Due drivers should know how for next hus is habind him
Need garbage cans at each bench. Need overhead cover at each bench. Bus drivers should know how far next bus is behind him.
Buses should be able to contact each other to hold transfer bus if bus is behind schedule so passengers can make their connections.
I will lose my job since you're stoping some routes.
I think the service is great. I wouldn't improve your services.
Great Service
Will the new routes cover the old 3 in Dublin?
The R should ride weekends.
I would like for the Rapid to operate on weekends.
Based on my answers, you should know what needs to be fixed. *
I like it when the bus is on time!
You guys get me from point A to point B so I'm happy.
First, the Drivers are really helpful. I needed water to drink and he gave me some. Be best on being on time and stay well maintained
and drive safe. Thank you Wheels.
The delays should not be more than 20 minutes. *
Route change affects me to go to work.
Buses are on time in the morning but delayed after 7:30 am and before 9:00 am.
The service is useful and necessary. The service is late at times. A few drivers are lacking in friendliness; sometimes we greet and
thank them for their service, and they don't reply. When we get out of work and board the bus, it is not pleasant to find drivers with long
faces. *
Overall good. Make sure electric signs at bus stations are accurate.
Make sure you're on time.
Move wheel chair space.
More frequent buses.
No bus on East Avenue around 11pm week.
The buses need to run later.
The Wheels management service are really good service for this transportation.
I think your service is good my problem is in the weekends when the service is every 40 mins. And it starts late in the morning.
Less opinions from drivers more professional attitude/demeaner.
The service gets me to where I got to be thank you Wheels.
Well, it works great for me.
No
It has good service.
Excellent work. *
Springtown 15 direct bus to BART needed
Some drivers are friendly some aren't, I've also noticed a lot of broken bike racks.
More buses during commute time.
Buses should be on-time. Increase frequency from BART to Pleasanton to avoid wait time (Mon-Fri).
Always on-time and very nice to passengers.
Hire friendly bus drivers. I ride the 15 everyday and I have bad experiences with the women they are rude, have attitude.
R & 12 run almost at same time and that results in one bus going empty. If we space them properly it will be helpful.
Improvements on all above asked questions, but I'd like to thank you all, w/no buses I couldn't be independent.
It would be nice of buses came on-time.
I enjoy taking the bus to get to work and other places.
Bus Drivers need to be more thorough when checking bus stops at night.
It's great!
Your service is great. It's just that I have to walk over the over pase just to get to work on wookdays. 12% should sup from 2 close
Your service is great. It's just that I have to walk over the over pass just to get to work on weekdays. 12x should run from 2-close.
More handicap space. During rush hour you run out of room for my wheel chair.
N/A
Just make sure buses are on-time or have the bus stop by more often. Maybe a radio installed, but that's simply an idea.
No
More flexible time with the bus schedule.
More connections to BART.
All Good.
Being a bit more on time would help. Other than that, I like taking the bus because most ot the drivers are very helpful and friendly.
Add a garbage can.
Great bus rides when I need it.
Ironically, its sometimes better if the bus is a bit late, as I get out of class about ten minutes after the bus leaves, and having this route
come every 30 minutes would be better. Ensure seat cushions are maintained.

I feel that the system planner and online schedules should be updated such that one can plan trips better based on timing and location.
I usually ride the 20x everyday to and from work, and wouldn't be able to get to work on time without it.
Just be nice.
More bus stops in Livermore going to transit center.
A few of the stops are out in the sun and have no seating. Would be great to fix that.
Some drivers should be more friendly.
The customer service is not friendly sometimes. Some buses leave without looking back if a passenger is rushing.
Middle-aged B.American female driver is rude and unhelpful (Route 10, afternoon shift). Children aggravate her. The driver instructs
riders to get ready to get off before stopping. Some riders are afraid to stand while bus is in motion.
Have buses come on time.
The website doesn't give clear times with the bus number on the same page.
Just try to be on time.
Works ok for my needs. Perhaps more frequent buses (mine was every 30 minutes).
Cleaner buses.
It would be great if you guys could have later routes and larger bus for the rapid.
Sometimes I bring my bike with me to work and I truly feel that you need better bike racks.
Bike racks need improvement
The service is good. I don't know why the 8 runs every 60 minutes? It was better before when it use to run every 30 minutes. *
Service during later hours would be good.
Better bike ramps
Later time for routes. I usually have to walk home.
Wait a little longer at bus stops. I have been left plenty of times.
Better road maps.
Overall, good service.
Put signs at Bart station showing Livermore to the left, Dublin to the right, etc. and to explain the bus ticket there better or easier to see.
Better signs at Bart station
Really good experience. A lady that drives route 10 is scary; she drives bus #0331
Made me happy today.
Please keep #10 and 8 in service because it is the only transportation I have.
I seldom use it, but the service seems good. *
Works well.
Some of the bus drivers appear stressed outso, these guys aren't really friendly.
The bus is really useful to me. I take it everyday, I'm more than satisfied.
Currently, it appears to me that the service is running well. *
Friendly drivers *
Excellent service, keep being better and better. I think you should have some more route around Dublin. Thank you!!
Everything is fine.
Just my opinion, drivers must attend a seminar on customer service to greatly improve their skill on dealing with riders.
More routes to Koll Center Pkwy. One bus went right by me so I had to wait for next bus from Pleasanton to Livermore.
I think the service at Wheels transit is amazing. They are easy to use and are dependable in getting to your destination.
Wheels has been very helpful when needed.
Keep 10 Route as is.
The drivers should be friendly with people. * The service is great and cheap. *
15 needs to run more often on weekends. Hillcrest/East Ave stop should remain open. In general, more weekend service.
There isn't a fast route to school (Las Positas).
No cans in people's bags on buses. Unclean. People board the bus with bags of recyclables (unsanitary, and sometimes creates a mess-
-spill).
Casey and Josh love the service!
Excellent service.

1

\*Translated from Spanish

## LAVTA COMMITTEE ITEMS - OCTOBER 2016 - FEBRUARY 2017

### **Finance & Administration Committee**

October Minutes Treasurers Report Quarterly Grants Report Legislative Quarterly Report CAFR Contract Award - A&E On-Call Services Contract Award - Rutan Parking Area Resurfacing Project Contract Award - Rutan Maintenance Area Resurfacing Project	Action X X X X X X X X	Info X X
<b>November</b> Minutes Treasurers Reports - October	Action X X	Info
<b>December</b> Minutes Treasurers Reports - October Meeting Dates	Action X X X	
<b>January</b> Minutes (November) Treasurers Report Legislative Program	Action X X X	Info
<b>February</b> Minutes Treasurers Report Quarterly Budget & Grants Report	Action X X	Info X

# LAVTA COMMITTEE ITEMS - OCTOBER 2016 - FEBRUARY 2017

# **Projects & Services Committee**

<b>October</b> Minutes Try Transit to Schools 2016 Results COA Update Relocation of Livermore Historic Train Depot	Action X	Info X X X
November	Action	Info
Minutes	Х	
Paratransit Customer Satisfaction		Х
Quarterly Operations		Х
Quarterly Marketing		Х
Award of Phone App.	Х	
Recommended Service Changes Winter 2016/17	Х	
December	Action	Info
Minutes	Х	
Draft Fare Study Recommendations		Х
January	Action	Info
Minutes (November)	Х	
Draft long Range Transit Plan		Х
February	Action	Info
Minutes	Х	
Quarterly Operations		Х
Quarterly Marketing		Х
Final Long Range Transit plan	Х	
Final Fare Study Recommendations	Х	