

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Summer 2018 Summer School Service Accommodation

FROM: Christy Wegener, Director of Planning and Operations
Cyrus Sheik, Senior Transit Planner

DATE: February 26, 2018

Action Requested

To consider the travel needs of students attending the summer school programs in Dublin and Pleasanton, and forward a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Background

LAVTA in some areas of Dublin and Pleasanton supplements its mainline routes with limited “school tripper” service operating on school days during the main academic year. Since 2014, the agency has also provided a limited subset of this service to accommodate students that attend the summer school sessions of the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) and Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD).

Last year, the DUSD summer program was conducted at Dublin High School, and the PUSD summer program at Foothill High School (FHS). LAVTA accommodated these programs by providing service on two supplemental Wheels routes for each - #501 and #502 for Dublin, and #602 and #604 for Pleasanton.

Discussion

The Dublin school district will again run its summer program at the Dublin High School (DHS) location this year, while the Pleasanton program will return back to the location from which it ran two years ago – Amador Valley High School (AVHS). No Wheels mainline route serves DHS, while AVHS is directly located along Route 10R.

The summer supplemental service that was operated in Dublin in 2017 operated across 28 days, and carried a total of 4,018 boardings through the program – or an average of 144 one-way boardings per day operated. Relative to the vehicle hours operated, this equated to approximately 59.1 unlinked passenger boardings per vehicle revenue hour.

The Pleasanton summer supplemental service *in 2016* (year illustrated to provide a usable comparison with the move back to Amador), provided by way of route #605, operated across 21 days, and carried a total of 49 boardings through the program – or about 2 one-way boardings per day operated. This equated to approximately 2.2 boardings per revenue hour.

The table below summarizes these indicators.

PRIOR SUMMERTIME SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICE RIDERSHIP				
<i>City</i>	<i>Days operated</i>	<i>Daily boardings</i>	<i>Total ridership</i>	<i>Pax/h</i>
Dublin (2017)	28	144	4 018	59.1
Pleasanton (2016)	21	2	49	2.2

When comparing the boardings-per-revenue-hour indicator with how the Wheels school tripper routes typically perform during the main academic year (60 pax/h but with a wide spread), the Dublin summer service did well.

However, the virtual absence of ridership on the supplemental service that was provided for the Pleasanton program when it was last based at AVHS indicates that students were able to use the regular mainline Wheels service available there. In 2016, two mainline Wheels routes - #8 and #10 – were operated along Santa Rita Road facing AVHS. However, later that year, the #8 was realigned and no longer travels in the area of the school. Having said this, the #10 is a frequent service that operates every 15 minutes throughout the day, has capacity, and provides connections to #8 at the East Dublin/Pleasanton BART station as well as in downtown Pleasanton.

Service Options for Summer 2018

Dublin: The DUSD summer school program is expected to be offered similarly to last year in terms of duration and bell times, and to run for six weeks, Monday thru Friday, starting June 11. Classes will begin at 8:00a and end at 12:30p, and the program will again be held at Dublin High School. As with last year, these times coincide closely enough with those of the *STEM Enrichment Academy* to be able to accommodate their students as well with a single daily arrival and departure to/from the school (both programs are held at DHS).

All four Wheels supplemental routes that serve Dublin High (#501, #502, and #504 from East Dublin, and #503 from Shannon Park) during the main academic year would technically be suitable for the summer program as well. Given, however, the typically lower enrollment compared to the main academic year and the ridership seen last year, it would likely be more appropriate to only run two of the four routes – similarly to last year. During the main school year, routes #501 and #504 see the most demand; however, with only two routes warranted from a demand perspective, operating the 501 and 502 would provide the best combined neighborhood coverage (Route #503 does provide unique coverage to the Shannon Park area but may not be expected to carry a sufficient number of students to warrant summer service). The following table lists the primary areas served by the 501/502 combo.

ROUTES 501 AND 502 RECOMM. SUMMER SERVICE 2018	
Neighborhoods served	
<i>Area</i>	<i>Route</i>
Positano Hill	501
Signal Hill*	501
Silvera Ranch*	501
Dublin Ranch*	501
Emerald Glen North	501
Bray Commons	502
Emerald Glen South	502
Wildwood Road	502

* Via perimeter arterial

The table below shows the estimated cost factors for running the #501 and #502 for this year's summer session. The estimate includes the cost of an overflow bus for the afternoon #501 trip, based on the loads that were experienced last year. The anticipated net cost of operating this service, after fare revenue, would be approximately \$2,510.

ROUTES 501 AND 502 RECOMM. SUMMER SERVICE 2018	
Cost estimate	
Daily revenue hours	2.43
Number of days operated	29
Total revenue hours	70.47
Total fully allocated cost	\$7 605
Daily ridership	144
Total program ridership	4 176
Estimated fare revenue	\$5 095
Total net cost (est'd)	\$2 510

Based on the apparent success of the Dublin supplemental service last summer, and on the continued growth in the city's student population, Staff anticipates service to again be productive this year and recommends that the Committee endorse accommodating the Dublin summer program as shown above.

Pleasanton: As indicated in the background section, the PUSD summer school program location last year was at Foothill High School, but is reverting back to Amador Valley High School this year – the same location as two years ago. The program will offer middle- and high school grade summer classes as well as enrichment courses. Similar to Dublin, the program is anticipated to start on June 11 and run for six weeks, and take place during the hours of 8:00a and 12:30p (middle school grades to let out at 12:00p). There will be no classes on Fridays.

Due to the presence of the frequent Wheels trunk line #10R operating throughout the day in the Santa Rita Road corridor by AVHS, and given the virtual absence of riders on the

supplemental route #605 when running that for the 2016 summer session, Staff recommends *no supplemental service* for the 2018 program in Pleasanton.

In order to maximize students' options with the Pleasanton program, Staff would produce targeted timetables and other materials tailored toward students who could utilize Route 10R for their travel to and from the summer classes. These materials would highlight the scheduled trips that are relevant to the bell times of the summer program, and would contain guidance on transfer options as applicable.

Budget

The current budget contains a contingency placeholder corresponding to 750 additional revenue hours annually for this and similar purposes. The approximately 70 revenue hours required to provide the summer supplemental service recommended above can be accommodated within that contingency amount.

Recommendation

Staff is asking the Projects & Services Committee to review the proposed service outlined above, and forward a recommendation to the Board of Directors to:

- Operate Wheels routes #501 and #502 during the DUSD 2018 summer school program, and
- Direct students to the regular Wheels route 10R for the PUSD 2018 summer school program.

Attachments:

1. Draft Summer Service Resolution 05-2018

Draft RESOLUTION 05-2018

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
AUTHORIZING SUMMER SERVICE FOR ROUTES 501 AND 502**

WHEREAS, LAVTA currently operates supplemental fixed route service to accommodate high school student transportation from multiple residential areas of Dublin and Pleasanton during the academic year; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA has operated a selection of its supplemental routes to accommodate summer school programs each year since 2014, and

WHEREAS, the Dublin Unified School District and the Pleasanton Unified School District have expressed interest in, and support for, continuing to provide service during summer session, in order to serve the transportation needs for their summer middle- and high school program; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA wishes to be responsive and supportive of reasonable requests by our partnership with the Dublin and Pleasanton Unified School Districts; and

WHEREAS, Wheels routes 501 and 502 would provide the best neighborhood coverage for the Dublin summer school program relative to the limited resources that are available to LAVTA; and

WHEREAS, Wheels regular mainline Route 10R has the capability and capacity to reasonably facilitate student travel to and from the location of the Pleasanton summer school program location this year; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the incremental service is relatively small and may be partially offset by passenger fares that the Authority believes can be reasonably expected.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that the LAVTA Board approves providing summer service on Wheels routes 501 and 502 during school days in June and July 2018 for the Dublin program, and approves directing students to the regular Wheels mainline Route 10R service for the Pleasanton program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of March, 2018.

Karla Brown, Chair

Attest:

Michael Tree, Executive Director