

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

August 2020

Ridership on the Fixed Route and Paratransit Systems

With the shelter in place order still active, ridership is remaining flat during COVID-19, with fixed route carrying just under 1,300 passengers on weekdays and paratransit carrying approximately 40 passengers. Staff is monitoring loads on the vehicles daily to encourage physical distancing recommendations.

Transit Signal Priority Upgrade and Expansion Project

This project will upgrade 67 intersections on the 10R and 30R Rapid routes and 24 Rapid buses with an improved and more reliable GPS-based signal-priority system. All GPS-enabled equipment has been installed and configured on Rapid buses and at 67 intersections in Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore, and LAVTA's real-time schedule information has been incorporated into the Central Management System, which will serve as the "brain" of the system housed at LAVTA. The CMS is showing that LAVTA's buses and the new intersection equipment are able to communicate with each other. LAVTA is now working with the vendor and cities to resolve intermittent connectivity issues from some intersections to ensure reliable ongoing operations. Once all equipment is installed and configured, the system will be ready for final testing and acceptance.

Pleasanton BRT Corridor Enhancement Project (Rapid Bus Stops on Santa Rita)

LAVTA issued the Notice to Proceed to the construction contractor on August 17, with work scheduled to continue for five months. The shelters, benches, some Rapid signage, and real-time passenger information signs have been delivered from the equipment manufacturers. Publicity signage recognizing the project's Measure B funding from the Alameda County Transportation Commission has been installed along the Santa Rita corridor at the project entry points, across from Amador Valley High School in the northbound direction, and south of Stoneridge Drive in the southbound direction (see photo).



Dublin Parking Garage Project

Alameda County serves as the Lead Agency on this project in partnership with LAVTA as project sponsor. On August 4, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors authorized issuance of the parking garage construction RFP, which the County expects to advertise later this summer. Alameda County staff anticipates County awarding the construction contract in November, with completion in early 2022.

Zero-Emission Bus Study

The Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) is currently in the middle stages of the zero-emission bus (ZEB) study. Following up on the last June update, CTE is on schedule

to provide their findings from the assessments conducted on fixed-route service, fuel consumption and comparisons, and the fleet in September.

Go Tri-Valley

The Go Tri-Valley program was launched on May 1, 2020. As of July 31, LAVTA has subsidized a total of 896 trips with an average subsidy of \$4.53 per trip. The trip volume is relatively low in comparison to the Go Dublin program. This is mainly due to the shelter-in-place order but is expected to increase once the order is relaxed or lifted. With Uber and Lyft making headlines in recent days as a result of Assembly Bill No. 5, staff is closely monitoring the situation and developing a contingency plan for the Go Tri-Valley program in case service is suspended.

Shared Autonomous Vehicle Project

Testing began late July and is expected to continue through the end of August, with the goal of getting any hiccups worked out in order for the safest and smoothest ride for passengers when revenue service starts. The main items being tested are: lane position, turns, intersection behavior, location confirmation of route stops and signs, and behavior towards fixed obstacles such as tree branches and curbs. Once the necessary minor adjustments are made and all safety concerns are addressed, LAVTA hopes to begin revenue service in September, which will be initiated with a kick-off event.

