

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### Projects and Services

#### Ridership

As covered in previous monthly ridership reports, we first started to see a trend last November where the post-pandemic ridership recovery (that had been observed over the prior several months before that point) began to level out. Whereas this was at first driven by a trend reversal on the school-focused routes, it is now affecting mainline (non-school routes) as well. The average weekday ridership for the mainline routes in April 2025 compared with the same month of last year was down by approximately 3%.

Systemwide, the corresponding number was a decrease of 7%. As in months prior, the larger decrease in the total number was driven by the significant tapering-off of demand in the supplemental routes traveling from East Dublin to Dublin High School (DHS) in conjunction with the ongoing transition to the new Emerald High School (EHS). As discussed in the last monthly update, this reduced demand was expected to happen because of EHS being situated much more accessibly for students living in East Dublin compared to DHS.

On the other hand, weekend (Saturday and Sunday) ridership continued to hold up: Average boardings per weekend increased from 2,855 to 2,866 compared with April 2024, driven especially by strong Saturday demand.

At the individual route level, most of the routes that were new or restored last spring had strong year-on-year (YoY) trends when comparing April of this year with April of 2024. Routes 2 (East Dublin), 4 (Central/West Dublin), 18 (Granada), and 580X (Livermore-Bart Express) all saw double-digit increases during that timeframe, albeit from low levels. The large trunk lines 10R and 30R delivered mixed results YoY: while the 10R has been holding up well (+4%), the 30R started trending down in February, with a YoY trend in April of a negative 11%.

#### Downtown Livermore Street Festival

Wheels sponsored a booth at the Livermore Downtown Street Fest this past weekend, providing free rides throughout the weekend on all Rapid (10R/30R) Routes! It was a busy and exciting time connecting with the community and helping riders get to the event while avoiding parking hassles.

We provided free rides on Routes 10R and 30R all weekend long — total ridership came in at 1,484 boardings across the two routes that weekend.



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### Dublin Community Safety Fair:

On May 17 Wheels participated in the first-ever Dublin Safety Fair, joining partners including the City of Dublin, Dublin Police and Fire, first aid responders, and various community service organizations. Hundreds of community members attended the event. Our team provided a Wheels bus on-site to conduct live demonstrations for attendees. Staff walked participants through boarding procedures, bike rack use, Clipper card transactions, and route planning tools.



### Shepards Gate Travel Training

Wheels staff conducted a travel training at the Shepards Gate, a residential housing community that helps women and children escape abuse, addiction, sex trafficking, and homelessness. An overview of Wheels services was provided with explanations of subsidized fare programs, along with trip planning assistance for Alameda social services.

### 2025 Bike to Wherever Day

LAVTA partnered with GILLIG to host an Energizer Station for Bike to Wherever Day. Over 50 riders stopped by to rest, learn about Wheels services, receive promotional giveaways. The event supported sustainable and transit options while engaging with our local cycling community.



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### MV Employee Appreciation BBQ

On May 15 MV hosted a staff BBQ to show employee appreciation! Great food, great company, and a well-deserved break for all who help keep Wheels rolling.



### New MV Safety and Training Manager

On Monday, May 12, MV Transportation's new Safety and Training manager started at the Livermore Division.

Rebecca Mitchell has been working in transportation for over 19 years and has focused on safety for over nine years. She originally wanted to help others as a nurse but found out she had a passion for transportation and safety. In her spare time, she loves escape rooms and flipping homes.



### MV General Manager Honored with MV CEO Award

At this year's MV Transportation General Manager's Annual meeting, LAVTA General Manager Regina Flores received the company's inaugural CEO Award. This recognition serves to acknowledge Regina's hard work in building a positive safety culture at LAVTA.



### LAVTA Director of Finance Honored with ROP Award

On May 7<sup>th</sup> Tamara Edwards, LAVTA's Director of Finance, was one of two mentors recognized by the Tri-Valley ROP for her mentorship of students in the Youth Innovation Program. This is Tamara's second year participating in the program and she has mentored students at both Del Valle and Valley High Schools.



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### Finance and Administration

#### California Transit Association Spring Legislative Conference

On May 8, staff attended the CTA Spring Legislative Conference in Sacramento. Topics for the day included a briefing on CTA legislative priorities, an update on the State's Transit Transformation Task Force, and a panel of legislators discussing Cap and Trade reauthorization. The keynote address was made by Transportation Secretary Toks Omishaken and the lunchtime remarks were provided by FTA Region 9 Administrator Ray Tellis.



#### American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Legislative Conference

The 2025 APTA Legislative Conference took place in Washington DC from May 18-20. Staff along with Chair Branning as well as staff and Board members from the East Bay Transit Coalition attended the conference. Productive meetings were held with staff from Senator Padilla and Schiff's offices, staff from Congressman Garamendi's office, and with Congressman DeSaulnier and Swalwell.





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### Mike Tobin Graduates Leadership Pleasanton

Earlier this month, Mike Tobin, Director of Operations & Planning, graduated from the Leadership Pleasanton Program as part of the Class of 2025. This program, hosted by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, brings together aspiring leaders from all sectors of the community, including local government, education, small business and nonprofit organizations to learn about the City, and to explore the challenges and opportunities facing the community and gain insights into how collaboration, service and vision can shape the City's future.



### Ad Hoc Committees

**Paratransit:** The contract with County Connection and Transdev for the provision of joint paratransit services is expiring in June 2026. Staff is recommending an Ad Hoc Committee be formed between Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCCTA) and LAVTA to assess contractor performance and make a recommendation about contract extension.

**Meadowlark Dairy:** To address ongoing safety concerns, staff is recommending an Ad Hoc Committee be formed to address impacts of the Dairy on LAVTA's operations with City and Dairy Staff.

### State of California Transit Transformation Task Force (TTTF)

As the work of the TTTF is set to wrap up, MTC along with the majority of Bay Area Transportation Agencies have signed onto a letter to CalSTA to highlight Bay Area priorities, particularly the need for more transit funding. The letter is included as Attachment 2.

### Attachments:

1. Board Statistics April 2025
2. Bay Area Comment Letter on the State's Transit Transformation Task Force