

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Route 501 – Public Hearing

FROM: Michael Tobin, Director of Operations & Planning

DATE: September 22, 2025

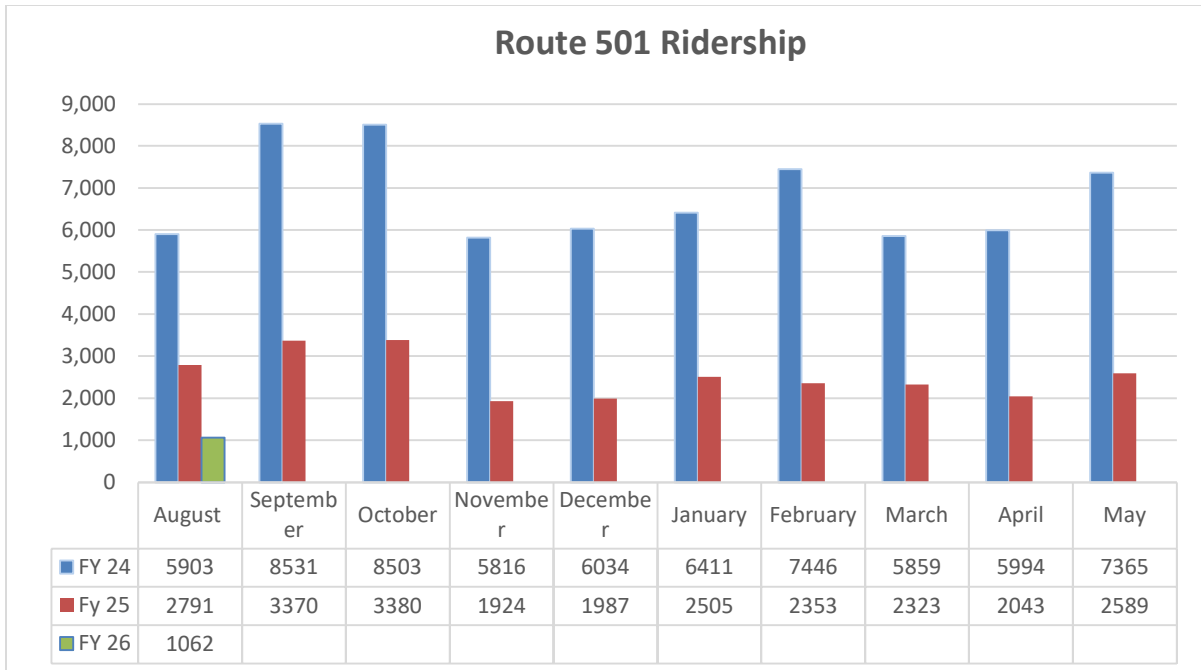
Action Requested

Request that the Board of Directors open the public comment period and set a public hearing on November 3rd regarding the reduction of service on Route 501, per LAVTA's Title VI Policy.

Background

Dublin High School has historically been served by supplemental school routes 501–504. Route 501 specifically serves the Positano, Silvera Ranch, and Dublin Ranch neighborhoods. In August 2024, Emerald High School opened, and students began transitioning from Dublin High School to the new campus. To support this transition, LAVTA introduced Route 201, a dedicated service for Emerald High School students in the Positano and Dublin Ranch neighborhoods.

The Dublin Unified School District projects Emerald High School enrollment to reach 1,765 students in the 2025/26 school year. As a result of this shift, ridership on Route 501 has declined by 62% year-over-year. In anticipation of these reductions in demand, staff correspondingly reduced the number of buses assigned to Route 501 from five to two beginning with the start of the 2025/26 school year on August 12, 2025. Additionally, staff removed the late afternoon trip that operated at 4:25pm due to low ridership in FY25 and FY24; the late trip was put into place in 2023 due to excessive loads on Route 501.



Discussion

LAVTA's Title VI and Major Service Change Policy mandates that a public hearing be held if there is a twenty-five percent (25%) or more reduction of the number of daily transit revenue vehicles of a route; i.e., the total number of miles operated by all vehicles in revenue service for a particular day of the week on an individual route.

Therefore, in accordance with the Title VI policy, the reduction in vehicles from 5 to 2 buses on Route 501 necessitates a public comment period and a public hearing.

Next Steps

If approved by the Committee and subsequently approved by the Board, staff will notice the public hearing via a press release, onboard buses, on the Wheels website and across social media channels, and will work directly with Dublin High School to distribute public hearing information to students and parents.

All public input received will be incorporated into the final staff recommendation, which will be presented to the Board for consideration at the December 2025 meeting.

Recommendation

Recommend that the Board of Directors open the public comment period and set a public hearing for November 3, 2025 to hear public comments regarding the reduction of service on Route 501.