

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
1362 Rutan Court, Suite 100
Livermore, CA 94551

PROJECTS and SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING / COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JEAN JOSEY – CHAIR
CRAIG EICHER

EVAN BRANNING – VICE CHAIR
DAVID HAUBERT

DATE: September 22, 2025

PLACE: LAVTA Offices, Diana Lauterbach Room,
1362 Rutan Court, Suite 100, Livermore

TIME: 4:00p.m.

TELECONFERENCE LOCATIONS

Scott Haggerty Heritage House
4501 Pleasanton Avenue
Pleasanton CA. 94566

Agenda Questions: Please call the Front Desk at (925) 455-7555 or send an email to frontdesk@lavta.org

Documents received after publication of the Agenda and considered by the Projects and Services Committee in its deliberation will be available for inspection only via electronic document transfer, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. See the COVID-19 provisions outlined below. Please call or email the Executive Director during normal business hours if you require access to any such documents.

MEETING PROCEDURE

This Projects and Service Committee meeting will be conducted in person and on the web-video communication platform, Zoom. In order to view and/or participate in this meeting remotely, members of the public will need to download Zoom from its website, www.zoom.us.

We encourage members of the public to access the meeting online using the web-video communication application, Zoom. Zoom participants will have the opportunity to speak during Public Comment. It is recommended that anyone wishing to participate in the meeting remotely complete the download process before the start of the meeting.

Public comments will also be accepted via email until 1:00 p.m. on Monday, September 22, 2025 at frontdesk@lavta.org. Please include “Public Comment – “09/22/2025” and the agenda item in the subject line. In the body of the email please include your name. Public comments submitted will be read during Public Comment and will be subject to the regular three-minute time restriction.

There will be zero tolerance for any person addressing the Committee making profane, offensive and disruptive remarks, or engaging in loud, boisterous, or other disorderly conduct, that disrupts the orderly conduct of the public meeting.

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- From a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device click the link below:
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*Please note to submit public comment via telephone dial *9 on your dial pad. The meeting’s host will be informed that you would like to speak. If you are chosen, you will be notified that your request has been approved and you will be allowed to speak. You will then dial *6 to unmute when it is your turn to make your comment for up to 3 minutes. After the allotted time, you will be muted.*

To submit written comments:

- Provide public written comments prior to the meeting by email, to
frontdesk@lavta.org

If you are submitting public comment via email, please do so by 1:00 p.m. on Monday, September 22, 2025 to frontdesk@lavta.org. Please include “Public Comment – “09/22/2025” and the agenda item to which your comment applies in the subject line. In the body of the email please include your name. Public comments submitted will be read during Public Comment and will be subject to the regular three-minute time restriction.

LAVTA Projects & Services Committee Meeting
AGENDA – September 22, 2025

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call of Members

3. Meeting Open to Public

- Members of the audience may address the Committee on any matter within the general subject matter jurisdiction of the LAVTA Board of Directors.
- Members of the audience may address the Committee on items on the Agenda at the time the Chair calls for the particular Agenda item.
- Public comments should not exceed three (3) minutes.
- Agendas are published 72 hours prior to the meeting.
- No action may be taken on matters raised that are not on the Agenda.

4. August 25, 2025 P&S Committee Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approval

5. Draft FY26 Fare Increase Proposal

Recommendation: Forward the Draft FY26 Fare Increase Proposal to the Board for consideration and recommend that the Board open the public comment period from October 7-November 7, 2025, and set a public hearing at the November 3, 2025 Board meeting.

6. Route 501 – Public Hearing

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

7. Scheduled Bus Arrival Times at Dublin High School

Recommendation: Informational only.

8. 2025 Summer Youth Ride Free Promotion Recap

Recommendation: Informational only.

9. Next Meeting Date is Scheduled for: October 27, 2025

10. Adjourn

Please refrain from wearing scented products (perfume, cologne, after-shave, etc.) to these meetings, as there may be people in attendance susceptible to environmental illnesses.

In the event that a quorum of the entire Board is present, this Committee shall act as a Committee of the Whole. In either case, any item acted upon by the Committee or the Committee of the Whole will require consideration and action by the full Board of Directors as a prerequisite to its legal enactment.

I hereby certify that this agenda was posted 72 hours in advance of the noted meeting.

<u>/s/ Michelle Kumar</u>	<u>9/19 /2025</u>
<u>LAVTA Administrative Services Department</u>	<u>Date</u>

On request, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority will provide written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in public meetings. A written request, including name of the person, mailing address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service should be sent at least seven (7) days before the meeting. Requests should be sent to:

*Executive Director
Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority
1362 Rutan Court, Suite 100
Livermore, CA 94551
Fax: 925.443.1375
Email: frontdesk@lavta.org*

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 25, 2025
LAVTA PRJOECTS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**JEAN JOSEY – CHAIR
CRAIG EICHER**

**EVAN BRANNING – VICE CHAIR
DAVID HAUBERT**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order 4:02pm

2. Roll Call of Members

Members Present

Jean Josey – City of Dublin

David Haubert – County of Alameda (left the meeting at 4:43pm)

Evan Branning – City of Livermore

Julie Testa – City of Pleasanton (attending in place of Craig Eicher)

Members Absent

Craig Eicher – City of Pleasanton

3. Meeting Open to Public

Herb Hastings reported on the Route 8 bus stop on First and Neal. Herb thanked Director Testa for her advocacy in installing a bus pad and encouraged the Committee to expedite the project. He commented that the hedge near the stop may need to be removed for scooter maneuverability.

4. Minutes of the June 23, 2025 Meeting of the P&S Committee.

Recommendation: Approval

No public comments.

Motion/Second: Haubert/Josey

Aye: Josey/Haubert/Testa/Branning

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

5. 2025 Strategic Plan – Draft Framework

Recommendation: Staff to provide an update on the 2025 Strategic Plan draft framework for discussion.

Daniel Iacofano from MIG presented the Committee with the Strategic Plan draft framework. The Committee provided feedback on several components of the framework which will be incorporated into the next iteration:

- Ensuring balance of projects across all years with a realistic road map and not front-loading projects in years 0-2
- Adding additional goals and performance metrics in several goal areas
- Alphabetize the value statements if they aren't in order of importance

No public comments were received.

6. Summer of Pilots – Evaluation

Recommendation: Staff recommend that the Projects and Services Committee receive an update on the summer technology pilot projects.

Mike Tobin, LAVTA Director of Operations and Planning, presented the item to the Committee. The presentation included information about three technology pilots currently underway at LAVTA.

Chair Josey commented that any data generated from these technology systems will need to be protected, including cybersecurity for cloud-based systems. Josey added LAVTA should consider working with emergency responders and develop a policy for live look-in viewing onboard LAVTA buses.

Director Testa requested information on the mixed-reviews of the mirrorless camera system.

Vice Chair Branning commented that as the agency adopts more video surveillance technology, there should be a data privacy policy that specifies how long video footage will be retained, and that this policy should be developed with input from labor. Branning added that a privacy policy will need to be developed if the agency adopts live look-in video capabilities.

No public comments.

7. FY26 Fare Increase Scenarios

Recommendation: Staff recommend the Projects and Services Committee provide feedback on the potential fare increase scenarios

Executive Director Christy Wegener gave the presentation which included a background and history of LAVTA's fare increases, comparator fares across the Bay Area, and presented four alternative fare increase scenarios for consideration in FY26. Wegener asked for specific Committee feedback on fare discounts for seniors/ADA riders and youth, multipliers for day and monthly passes, and whether

the paratransit fare should remain at less than 2x. Staff will incorporate the Committee feedback into the draft proposal which will be presented at the September 22 meeting. Staff will also present the fare increase scenarios to the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee at their September 3 meeting.

Vice Chair Branning would like information on the budget impact without a fare increase. Branning recommended keeping the discount for youth riders and requested information on the variance of price elasticity across different rider groups. Branning also requested to hear feedback from the TAAC once they heard the presentation.

Director Testa commented that she favored scenario 1 and requested information on the Pleasanton Rides fare. Staff responded that the fare was \$3.50.

Chair Josey commented that she preferred a multi-year phased approach to a fare increase. Josey also favors keeping the youth rider discount and the senior/ADA discount.

The Committee requested additional information on historic versus actual fare revenue, and information on farebox recovery requirements for various funding sources. Staff will return to the Committee in September with the additional information and the draft fare proposal.

No public comments.

8. Executive Director's Report

Recommendation: This is an informational item.

Executive Director Wegener provided an update on the August 9 service change, the upcoming Downtown Pleasanton bus service plan to address routing on Neal Street, and the upcoming fixed route and paratransit customer satisfaction surveys.

Chair Josey requested that an information item be brought back to the Committee regarding the scheduled bus arrival times at Dublin High School.

Herb Hasting commented that the agency should not reroute the 10R out of Downtown Pleasanton and offered his suggested routing.

Esther Waltz provided comments about the importance of serving Downtown Pleasanton with the 10R and that the Meadowlark Dairy car line should be moved to Railroad.

9. Next Meeting Date is Scheduled for: September 22, 2025

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:04pm.

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Draft FY26 Fare Increase Proposal

FROM: Christy Wegener, Executive Director
Tamara Edwards, Director of Finance

DATE: September 22, 2025

Action Requested

Forward the Draft FY26 Fare Increase Proposal to the Board of Directors for consideration, and request the Board open a public comment and review period from October 7 – November 7, 2025, and set a public hearing for the November 3, 2025 Board meeting.

Background

At the August 25, 2025 Committee meeting staff presented the background of LAVTA's fare increases since 2000 and information about how LAVTA fares compare to those of other Bay Area transit agencies. Staff presented four different fare increase scenarios to the Committee during the meeting:

Scenario	Regular Single Ride	Regular Day Pass	Regular Monthly Pass	Paratransit
<i>Current</i>	<i>\$2</i>	<i>\$3.75</i>	<i>\$60</i>	<i>\$3.75</i>
1	\$2.25	\$4.50	\$67.50	<\$4.50
2	\$2.50	\$5	\$75	<\$5
3	\$2.75	\$5.50	\$82.50	<\$5.50
4	\$3	\$6	\$90	<\$6

During the Committee meeting, staff received input on the four scenarios, as well as feedback on discounts for seniors/ADA individuals and students, and the paratransit fare. Staff also received input on the day and monthly pass multipliers. The Committee requested information on the farebox recovery requirements for existing funding sources, provided below:

Funding Source	Project	Farebox Recovery	Current Farebox
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		Requirement	Recovery Ratio
RM2	Route 30R Operations	20%	15.55%
RM3	Route 30R Operations	20%	15.55%
Transportation Development Act	50% LAVTA Operating Budget	20% fixed route/ 10% paratransit	10.11% 7%

Staff also presented the fare increase scenarios to the Finance and Administration Committee at their August 26, 2025 meeting, and to the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee at their September 3, 2025 meeting.

Discussion

After receiving feedback from the three Committees, staff developed the following draft fare increase proposal:

	Regular Single Ride	Regular Day Pass	Regular Monthly Pass	Senior/ADA Single Ride	Senior/ADA Day Pass	Senior/ADA Monthly Pass	Youth Fare (Clipper)
Current	\$2.00	\$3.75	\$60	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$22	\$1.60
Proposed	\$2.25	\$4.00	\$67.50	\$1.10	\$2.00	\$25	\$2.00

	Paratransit
Current	\$3.75
Proposed	\$4.00

The proposal addresses several comments received from the Committees, including:

- Keeping the day pass multiplier at less than 2x
- Providing more than 50% discount for seniors/ADA riders on fixed route fares
- Maintaining a discounted youth fare on Clipper
- Charging less than the maximum (2x) allowable for paratransit
- Instead of a larger phased fare increase, staff propose that the Board consider revisiting the fares every 3-5 years.

Next Steps

Any fare increases are required to follow LAVTA's Title VI and Public Hearing Policy. During the public comment and review period, LAVTA staff will at minimum publish notices regarding the nature of the proposed changes and the public comment process in The Valley Times legal classifieds zone of the East Bay Times in English, Spanish, and Mandarin (Simplified) Chinese. Staff will also solicit multi-lingual passenger input via the following channels: signage on all buses, postings at the Livermore Transit Center, dedicated landing pages on the wheelsbus.com website, and posts across all social media channels. An online form hosted at wheelsbus.com will be available for feedback. Staff will also take the proposal to the TAAC at their November 5, 2025 meeting.

After consideration of all public input received during the public comment period, a final staff recommendation will be brought to the Board of Directors in December with an anticipated implementation date of April 1, 2026. While LAVTA does not have to conduct a Title VI Fare Equity Analysis, staff will determine the impact of these proposed changes on LAVTA's ridership and will include that information in the final staff recommendation.

Recommendation

Forward the Draft FY26 Fare Increase Proposal to the Board for consideration and recommend that the Board open the public comment period from October 7-November 7, 2025, and set a public hearing at the November 3, 2025 Board meeting.

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Route 501 – Public Hearing

FROM: Michael Tobin, Director of Operations & Planning

DATE: September 22, 2025

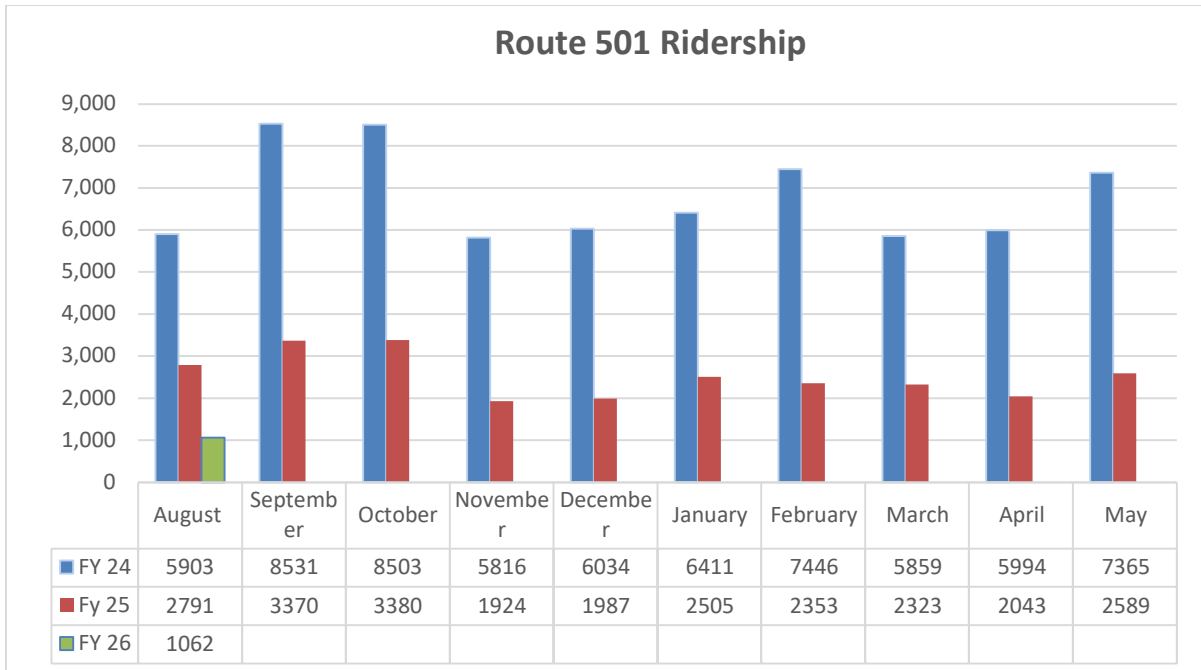
Action Requested

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.

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Scheduled Bus Arrival Times at Dublin High School

FROM: Michael Tobin, Director of Operations
Cyrus Sheik, Senior Transit Planner

DATE: September 22, 2025

Action Requested

This is an informational item.

Background

At the August 25, 2025 Projects & Services Committee meeting, directors inquired as to the reason that the Wheels supplemental 500-series routes arrive relatively early at Dublin High School (DHS) vs. the school's bell time.

Discussion

In areas where the regular Wheels routes have insufficient coverage or capacity to serve students' travel needs, or where schools are not located on mainline Wheels routes, LAVTA operates a number of supplemental routes to middle- and high schools in Dublin and Pleasanton.

The heavy peak-oriented nature of student travel puts significant pressure on LAVTA vehicles and manpower resources to operate the supplemental service – especially in the mornings, when all schools have similar bell times. This became especially problematic after the passage of California's Senate Bill 328 in 2019 which requires middle schools to start no earlier than 8:00 a.m. and high schools no earlier than 8:30 a.m. This law became effective in 2022.

Therefore, to maximize limited resources (and effectively maximize service), many of the buses are scheduled as a shared resource for two consecutive supplemental routes (schools) through a process called “interlining”. In some cases, buses are also scheduled to interline between supplemental routes and mainline routes.

Why is Dublin High the school with the earliest scheduled arrivals?

Prior to the new Emerald High School (EHS) coming online, traffic backups around DHS had eventually built up to the point where it was no longer realistic for the Wheels buses to arrive very close to bell time without spending most of their trip time along the final two blocks on the approach to the school (and students arriving late). At the same time, more buses overall were needed to accommodate higher demand at DHS.

With this issue at hand, and with more buses needed, the scheduled arrival times were moved up to avoid the heaviest traffic – and at the same time to enable buses to interline to other schools.

Current setup and schedule

Currently, all the supplemental routes/buses that serve DHS in the a.m. arrive 33 to 40 minutes prior to the main bell, and all of those buses continue to other supplemental routes, as follows:

501 > 610 (Hart Middle School)
501 (overflow) > 609 (Hart Middle School)
502 > 610 (Hart Middle School, overflow)
503 > 503 (same route continues to Wells Middle School)
504 > 607 (Hart Middle School)

Outlook for next school year

Staff is still drafting recommendations for next year, but expects the drawdown at DHS to continue as the boundary transition to EHS is completed. Depending on the exact resource requirements at DHS and elsewhere then, it may be possible to schedule bus arrivals closer to the DHS bell at that point.

Recommendation

This is an informational item.

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: 2025 Summer Youth Ride Free Promotion Recap

FROM: David Mark, Director of Customer Experience

DATE: September 22, 2025

Action Requested

Informational only.

Background:

The Summer Youth Ride Free (SYRF) promotion ran from May 30 – August 31, 2025. The initiative supports choice ridership and public transit trial by youth over the summer school break leading up to the 2025/26 school year. The supporting media campaign ran from May 15 – August 24, 2025.

For the second consecutive year Wheels offered a fare free period for youth during the summer months when students are out of school. With Try Transit to School discontinued for 2025, SYRF was extended to the end of August to accommodate two weeks of free ridership at the start of the school year. Contra Costa County agencies offered similar fare free youth programs this year with County Connection, Tri Delta Transit, and WestCAT collaborating with LAVTA on media relations.

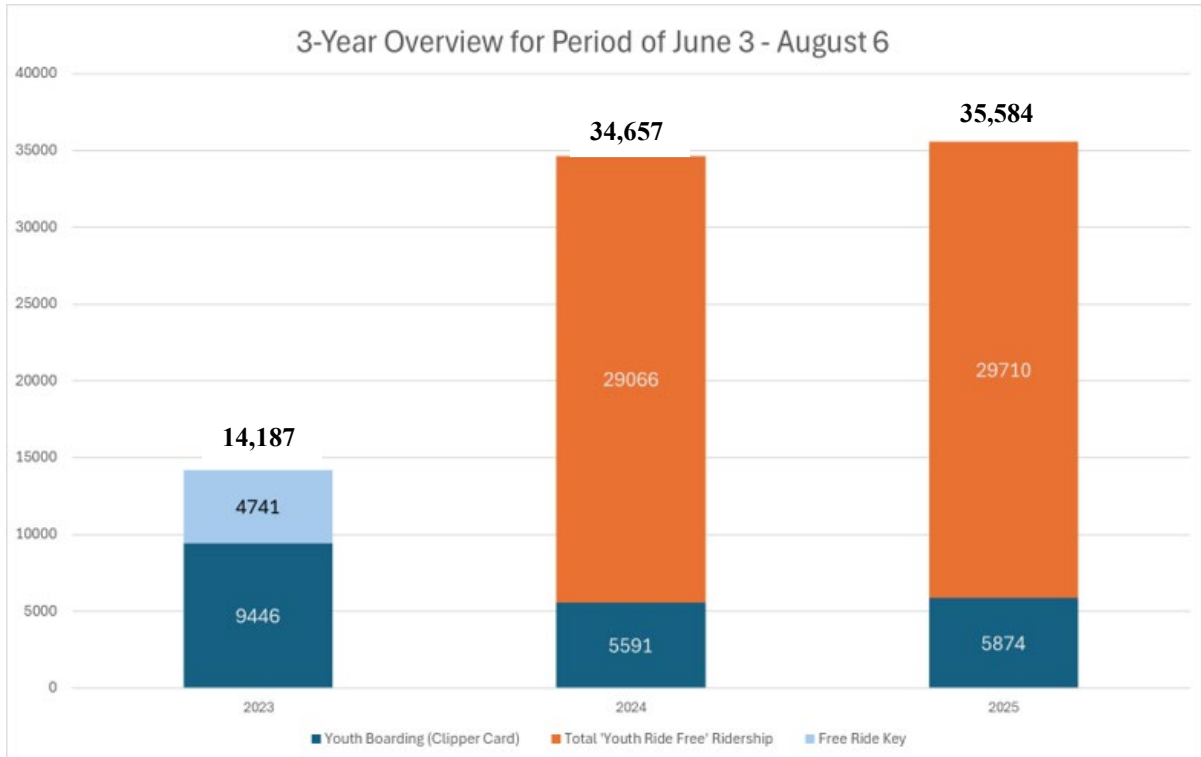
Discussion:

The promotion continued its objective of increasing student summer “choice” ridership. Multiple media platforms were used to communicate the promotion to both student and parent audiences across traditional and digital channels. The offer and advertising proved effective as ridership and website traffic increased substantially over the promotional period.

Results:

Ridership data was collected via the GFI Farebox. When a youth rider boarded the bus, operators were instructed to press the D Key. It should be noted that often operators pressed the D (courtesy/free) key instead of the B (promotional) key. For comparison purposes, LAVTA is combining data from both keys in this analysis.

Website traffic for the period June 1 – August 15 was 24,000 users, a 19% increase from year prior. Total sessions were 48,000, an increase of 33% for the same period.



2025 summer youth ridership of 35,584 aligned with 2024 results of 34,657 riders, representing a large average increase of 248% (20,934 riders) when compared to the baseline of 2023 total summer youth ridership. A 10-week period was used to facilitate consistent year-over-year comparisons, accounting for different school start dates and the promotional period extension to end of August.

It should be noted that this program results in a small loss of fare revenue due to Alameda County Student Transit Pass Program (STPP) cardholders not being required to tap Clipper cards. This annual forgone fare revenue is estimated at \$4,227 for the overview period.

Staff intend to continue the program in 2026 but will be evaluating costs to find efficiencies as the program now has broad community awareness. Staff will also collaborate with the Contra Costa County operators to share media opportunities and better understand the efficacy of their programs.

Recommendations

None - This is an informational item.