

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Dublin School Bus Service Plans for the 2026/27 Academic Year

FROM: Mike Tobin, Director of Operations & Planning
Cyrus Sheik, Senior Transit Planner

DATE: February 23, 2026

Action Requested

This is an informational update – no action is requested.

Background

LAVTA has been coordinating closely with Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) regarding ongoing changes to student enrollment patterns, particularly the continued transition of students from Dublin High School (DHS) to Emerald High School (EHS) which will finish in the 2026/27 academic year. As student populations shift eastward toward EHS, modifications to the existing supplemental school bus network to DHS are necessary to ensure service levels remain aligned with demand while maintaining operational efficiency. Additionally, there have been requests for supplemental school service to connect more directly within residential communities, especially in the hilly areas of Dublin.

Discussion

Emerald High School Service

To better serve the growing EHS attendance area, staff propose discontinuing Route 501 and restructuring service in West Dublin through the creation of a new Route 202 and modification of the existing Route 201.

The revised Route 201 would continue to serve the Dublin Ranch area while extending service into the Palisades/Tassajara Hills subdivision to accommodate increasing student demand. Staff looked into providing direct service to Wallis Ranch as well, however this was deemed operationally infeasible due to constraints related to street size and parking. The proposed Route 202 would provide new coverage in the Fallon, Positano, and Croak Road areas, leveraging the planned opening of Croak Road to improve direct access to the school.

These changes will expand geographic coverage, improve directness of travel paths, and better balance passenger loads between routes serving EHS.

Dublin High School Service

Due to declining ridership associated with the student transition to EHS, staff propose discontinuing Routes 501 and 504, as well as restructuring remaining DHS service.

Under the proposal, Route 502 would be truncated with a revised eastern terminus near Dublin Boulevard and Hacienda Drive and may be adjusted to serve the developing Boulevard area once roadway connections are completed. Staff are currently looking into potential modifications to Route 503 with the goal of providing more direct service from West Dublin to Dublin High School. Together, these routes are expected to adequately accommodate projected DHS ridership.

Implementation Timeline

These service changes are planned for implementation at the start of the 2026–27 school year, consistent with DUSD’s academic calendar. Staff will continue coordinating with DUSD to finalize routing details and conduct student outreach prior to implementation. Staff will also work with City of Dublin on routing and stop locations as required.

Fiscal Impact

The resources required to supplemental school routes to DHS and EHS, as outlined above, are within the budgetary resources.

Next Steps

Staff will take committee feedback and modify routing. The new DUSD routes will go into effect with the Fall semester commencing in August of 2026 and will be implemented on a pilot basis. Once the pilot period is complete, staff will return to the Board for formal approval and public hearing later in the fall.

Recommendation

Information item only.

Strategic Plan Goal

Service Development: Assess LAVTA’s service area network, monitor ridership trends, evaluate routes, and make recommendations for meeting current demand and community priorities

Attachments:

None