

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Operator Restroom Access at Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station: One-Year Agreement with Throne Labs

FROM: Christy Wegener, Executive Director
Mike Tobin, Director of Operations and Planning

DATE: February 24, 2026

Action Requested

Approve Resolution 08-2026, authorizing the Executive Director to execute a one-year agreement with Throne Labs, in a form approved by legal counsel, for the provision of an operator restroom facility at Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station, in an amount not to exceed \$114,439.50.

Background

LAVTA bus operators currently lack adequate restroom access at Dublin/Pleasanton BART, a critical transit hub where multiple routes begin or end service. During peak periods, up to 25 buses per hour arrive or depart from this location. This operating pattern creates a sustained need for reliable, proximate, and dedicated restroom access that aligns with service demands and operator schedules.

The current gap creates operational and workforce impacts, including:

- Service reliability risk when operators must travel off-site to locate facilities, increasing the likelihood of late departures and schedule adherence challenges.
- Operator health, safety, and dignity concerns, particularly during long pulls, split shifts, and tightly scheduled relief points.
- Increased dispatch and road supervision workload as staff manage ad hoc workarounds.
- Increased risk of labor relations issues and reduced operator satisfaction and retention.

Staff is recommending an immediate, near-term solution that can be deployed quickly and maintained to a consistent standard: a dedicated operator restroom facility at Dublin/Pleasanton BART under a one-year agreement. This approach addresses the operational gap now while LAVTA continues to evaluate longer-term, permanent facility options and interagency coordination opportunities.

Discussion

Providing reliable operator restroom access at major hubs is not only an operational necessity, but also a basic quality of life and workforce dignity issue for LAVTA's frontline employees.

Dublin/Pleasanton BART is a high-volume location for LAVTA service, and the frequency of bus activity at this hub amplifies the impact of any missing basic operator support infrastructure such as restrooms. A great deal of operators spend their breaks at this station, which requires appropriate amenities. When operators must leave the station area to locate restrooms, the result is variability and delay that can cascade into on-time performance issues and service disruptions, particularly during peak periods when headways are tighter and recovery time is limited.

A one-year agreement with Throne Labs allows LAVTA to implement a controlled, dedicated operator restroom solution at Dublin/Pleasanton BART quickly, without having to wait for longer-term capital or facility coordination efforts. The proposed solution supports:

- Immediate restroom availability in immediate proximity to the bus bays at Dublin/Pleasanton BART, which accommodate over 250 inbound and outbound bus trips per day;
- A consistent standard of cleanliness and uptime through contracted service and maintenance;
- Controlled access and accountability features that support appropriate use and minimize downtime;
- Operational continuity at a critical hub while staff continues to assess permanent options.

This interim approach addresses an immediate operational and workforce need while preserving flexibility as LAVTA assesses longer-term solutions.

Sole Source Procurement

Throne Labs is the sole provider of its patented smart restroom system that integrates portable restroom infrastructure with proprietary software and controlled-access functionality. The smart access and real-time operational features described in the attached justification are not available through standard portable sanitation vendors or fixed restroom solutions. The proprietary and patented nature of Throne's solution, combined with the need for a single, accountable provider to deploy and maintain a reliable operator restroom at Dublin/Pleasanton BART, justifies a sole source procurement.



Fiscal Impact

The total cost of the one-year agreement is \$114,439.50, not to exceed, for a 12-month term. This equates to approximately \$9,536.63 per month, anticipated to begin after the Throne is delivered in July 2026. This funding will be included in the FY27 operating budget; staff are in active discussion with County Connection to see if they are interested in providing funding in exchange for access as they have multiple routes that serve the BART station. Additionally,

any liquidated damages received from the fixed route contractor will be applied to the cost of the Throne license.

Next Steps

If approved by the Finance and Administration Committee, the Board will consider approval at the March meeting. Upon Board approval, staff will finalize and execute the one-year agreement with Throne Labs in a form approved by legal counsel and will begin the permitting process with BART.

Staff will monitor performance during the contract term and use results to inform longer-term restroom access planning.

Recommendation

Staff recommend that the Finance and Administration Committee forward Resolution 08-2026 to the Board of Directors for approval, authorizing the Executive Director to execute a one-year agreement with Throne Labs, in a form approved by legal counsel, for the provision of an operator restroom facility at Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station, in an amount not to exceed \$114,439.50.

Strategic Plan Goal:

Service Development - Improve the quality of transit service, reliability, on-time performance, and rider experience to meet community needs and grow ridership.

Organizational and Financial Management - Create and implement policies that establish a positive culture and working environment, making LAVTA an employer of choice.

Attachments:

1. Resolution 08-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 08-2026

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
AUTHORIZING A ONE-YEAR AGREEMENT FOR AN OPERATOR RESTROOM
FACILITY AT DUBLIN BART STATION**

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) operates fixed-route service with multiple routes beginning or ending at Dublin/Pleasanton Station, a critical regional transit hub; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA bus operators currently lack adequate restroom access at Dublin BART, and during peak periods up to 25 buses per hour begin or end service at this location, creating an operational gap that can affect service reliability, schedule adherence, and operator health and safety; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA desires to address this gap immediately by securing a dedicated operator restroom facility at Dublin BART under a one-year agreement; and

WHEREAS, Throne Labs is the sole provider of its patented smart restroom system that integrates portable restroom infrastructure with proprietary software and controlled-access functionality, and staff has determined that a sole source procurement is justified based on the proprietary and patented nature of the solution and the need for a single accountable provider to deploy and maintain the facility; and

WHEREAS, the total contract value for a 12-month term is \$114,439.50, not to exceed, subject to final agreement terms and approval by legal counsel.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that the Executive Director is authorized to execute a one-year agreement with Throne Labs, in a form approved by legal counsel, for the provision of an operator restroom facility at Dublin/Pleasanton Station, in an amount not to exceed \$114,439.50.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 2nd day of March 2026.

Julie Testa, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Christy Wegener, Executive Director