

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Public Works *CPA*

BOARD AGENDA # *C-6

Urgent Routine

AGENDA DATE May 20, 2008

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Set a Public Hearing on June 24, 2008 at 9:10 a.m. to Introduce and Waive the First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Transit Fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit ("StaRT")

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Set a public hearing on June 24, 2008 at 9:10 a.m. to introduce and waive the first reading of an ordinance to amend transit fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Transit fares will offset and reduce the need for other public funding sources for transit operations and enable the StaRT bus system to meet its State-mandated farebox requirements. If the transit fares are amended, the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 revenue is estimated to be \$388,918 of which \$59,125 will be generated by the proposed increases.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2008-362

On motion of Supervisor Grover Seconded by Supervisor DeMartini
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Grover, DeMartini and Chairman Mayfield

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: Monteith

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No. ORD-55-H-3

Approval to Set a Public Hearing on June 24, 2008 at 9:10 a.m. to Introduce and Waive the First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Transit Fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT)

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Transit Division (Transit Division) is seeking approval to set a public hearing to amend the ordinance for transit fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT). The proposed ordinance will include a system wide fare increase for StaRT Fixed Route, Shuttle, Runabout, Dial-a-Ride and Medivan services. The fare structure is broken into Fixed Stop (Fixed Route and Runabout), Runabout (Intercity Dial-a-Ride), Intracity Dial-a-Ride, Medivan and Intersystem and Intrasystem Transfers categories.

The proposed changes to the current fare structure are:

Fixed Stop Service (Fixed Route and Runabout Services)	Existing	Proposed	Increase
Cash Fare (one ride)			
General Fare	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$0.25
Student	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$0.25
Senior/Disabled	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$0.25
Ticket Book (20 ride)			
General Fare	\$18.00	\$22.50	\$4.50
Senior/Disabled	\$15.00	\$18.00	\$3.00
Bus Card (20 ride)			
General Fare	\$18.00	\$22.50	\$4.50
Student	\$17.00	\$21.25	\$4.20
31-Day Pass (Effective August 2009)			
General Fare	NA	\$45.00	NA
Student	NA	\$40.00	NA
Senior/Disable	NA	\$30.00	NA
Route 70 (Modesto to Merced)			
General Fare	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$0.50
Senior/Disabled	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$1.00
Runabout & Shuttle (Intercity Dial-a-Ride) Services			
Cash Fare (one ride)			
General Fare	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$0.50
Student	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$0.50
Senior/Disabled	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$0.50

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Ticket Book (20 ride)			
General Fare	\$40.00	\$50.00	\$10.00
Senior/Disabled	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$ 7.00
Zone Fare for Service Outside Service Area			
	\$1.00	\$1.50 plus Regular fare	\$0.50
Intracity Dial-a-Ride	Existing	Proposed	Increase
Cash Fare (one ride)			
General Fare	\$1.15	\$1.25	\$0.10
Student	\$1.15	\$1.25	\$0.10
Senior/Disabled	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$0.25
Ticket Book (20 ride)			
General Fare	\$23.00	\$25.00	\$2.00
Senior/Disabled	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$5.00
Zone Fare for Service Outside Service Area			
	\$1.00	\$1.50 plus Regular fare	\$0.50
Medivan			
One-Way Ride	\$ 7.50	\$ 9.00	\$1.50
Round Trip	\$15.00	\$18.00	\$3.00
Attendant (one-way)	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00	\$1.00
Attendant (round-trip)	\$ 2.00	\$ 4.00	\$2.00
Intracounty Transfer	\$0.25	\$0.25	Unchanged

The proposed ordinance, if adopted for August 2008, will update the StaRT system fare structure. The last fare increase occurred in July 2005.

The Transit Division is proposing a new fare for a 31-Day Pass for Fixed Stop services. The pass is proposed to start in August 2009 after fareboxes have been installed in StaRT Fixed Route buses. The Transit Division is also proposing to raise the age from four years or younger to five years or younger for a child to be able to ride free with a paid fare. The Transit Division is also proposing to increase the number of children who can ride free with a paid fare from one child to two children per paid fare. The purpose of the age increase and number of children who can ride free is to promote the use of StaRT services by families.

The Fixed Stop services include Routes 10, 15, 40, 45, 60, the Waterford/Modesto Runabout and the Waterford and Newman Dial-a-Ride Fixed Stop services into Oakdale and Patterson, respectively. The Runabout Intercity Curb-to-Curb Dial-a-Ride service includes the Waterford/Modesto Runabout and the Shuttle services are the Turlock/Modesto shuttle and the Eastside Shuttle. The Intracity Dial-a-Ride services category is for local Curb-to-Curb Dial-a-

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Rides and includes Patterson, Newman and Waterford Dial-a-Rides. The Medivan service is the County's non-emergency medical transportation service to Bay Area medical facilities.

The Intersystem and Intrasystem Transfers enable passengers on the StaRT system to transfer to and from other transportation services within Stanislaus County at a discounted rate.

Under the Transportation Development Act, the State legislation that provides funds for the County Transit System, a mandated fare box ratio is required. A farebox ratio is the ratio of fare revenues collected to operating expenses. For the County, as a non-urban transit operator, a 10% farebox ratio is required. Failure to maintain this 10% ratio can result in the loss of Local Transportation Funds, the primary source of transit operation funds.

As contractor fuel, labor and insurance costs have increased, despite increased ridership, operating costs have increased at a greater rate than fare revenues. Under the current fare structure, staff projects the farebox ratio could possibly drop below the 10% standard in Fiscal Year 2008-2009. The ordinance's adoption will enable the StaRT system to increase fare revenues by an estimated \$59,125 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 and will ensure the StaRT transit system exceeds the 10% standard. Staff projects this fare increase, contingent on fuel and insurance costs, should enable the StaRT transit system to exceed the 10% standard through Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

To ensure continued compliance with the State standard beyond Fiscal Year 2009-2010, the Public Works Transit Division proposes to continue the program whereby each service type, Fixed Stop or Demand Response, will be expected to maintain a farebox standard. For Fixed Stop services, the standard will be 15% and for Demand Response services (Roundabout, Shuttle, Dial-a-Ride and Medivan) a 10% farebox standard.

Under this program, if projections show the Fixed Stop farebox ratio is:

1. Greater than 3% below standard, fares may increase \$0.10
2. Greater than 2% below standard, fares may increase \$0.05
3. Less than 2% below standard would not change the fares and staff would keep an eye on the farebox ratio for another year

Under this program, if projections show the Demand Response farebox ratio is:

1. Greater than 3% below standard, fares may increase \$0.10 for Runabouts, \$0.05 for local Dial-a-rides and \$0.50 for the Medivan.
2. Greater than 2% below standard, fares may increase \$0.05
3. Less than 2% below standard would not change the fares and staff would keep an eye on the farebox ratio for another year.

For 31-Day Passes, 20-ticket books and 20-Ride cards, increases would be based on the cash fare increase.

The farebox ratios for each service type would be reviewed annually for compliance and fare adjustments made as necessary to ensure compliance with the adopted standards.

Approval to Set a Public Hearing on June 24, 2008 at 9:10 a.m. to Introduce and Waive the First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Transit Fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT)

If the proposed fare structure is adopted, the StaRT fare structure will remain very affordable when compared with other local intercity and intracity public transportation services.

POLICY ISSUES:

The Board of Supervisors should determine if this item is consistent with its priority of striving for a well-planned infrastructure system.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this action.

H:\BradChristian\BOS\0708\8.08Fare Increase

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO FARES FOR TRANSIT SERVICE

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS, ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Fares for transit services provided by Stanislaus Regional Transit ("StaRT") are amended and adopted as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days from and after the date of its passage and before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after its passage it shall be published once, with the names of the members voting for and against the same, in the Modesto Bee, a newspaper published in the County of Stanislaus, State of California.

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, the foregoing ordinance was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California, this _____ day of _____, 2008, by the following called vote:

AYES: Supervisors:

NOES: Supervisors:

ABSENT: Supervisors:

Thomas W. Mayfield
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Stanislaus, State of California

ATTEST:
CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Stanislaus, State of California

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN DOERING
County Counsel

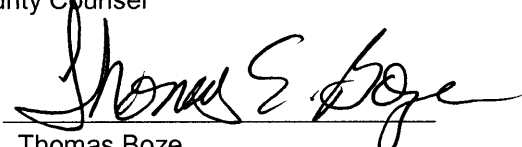
By: 
Thomas Boze
Deputy County Counsel

Exhibit A

FARE STRUCTURE FOR STANISLAUS REGIONAL TRANSIT ("StaRT")

Fare Type	Cash Fare	20-Ticket Book	20-Ride Bus Card	31-Day Pass (Effective August 2009)
Fixed Stop (Fixed Route and Runabout)				
General Fare	\$1.25	\$22.50	\$22.50	\$45.00
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$1.00	\$18.00	NA	\$30.00
Student	\$1.25	NA	\$21.25	\$40.00
Runabout (Intercity Dial-a-Ride)				
General Fare	\$2.50	\$50.00	NA	NA
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$2.00	\$40.00	NA	NA
Student	\$2.50	NA	NA	NA
Zone Fare for outside Service Area	Regular fare plus \$1.50			
Intracity Dial-a-Ride				
General Fare	\$1.25	\$25.00	NA	NA
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$1.00	\$20.00	NA	NA
Student	\$1.25	NA	NA	NA
Zone Fare for outside Service Area	Regular fare plus \$1.50			
Route 70 to Merced				
General Fare	\$2.50			
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$2.00			
Medivan				
All Passengers		\$18.00 - Round trip		
		\$9.00 - One-way trip		
		Attendants \$2.00 each way		
Intersystem and Intrasystem Transfers				
All passengers		\$0.25		

Effective August 2008

Exhibit B

CASH FARE COMPARISONS

Fare Type	StaRT Proposed Fares (Intercity)	Modesto (Intracity)	Turlock (Intracity)	Ceres (Intracity)	ROTA Riverbank/Oakdale Transit Authority (Intercity)	San Joaquin County (Intercity)	Merced Cnty (Intercity)
FIXED STOP SERVICES							
General Fare	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
Senior	\$1.00	\$0.60	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.50	\$0.60	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
Person w/Disability	\$1.00	\$0.60	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.50	\$0.60	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
Student	\$1.25	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
RUNABOUT / INTERCITY DIAL-A-RIDE (curb-to-curb) SERVICES							
General Fare	\$2.50	NA	NA	NA	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
Senior	\$2.00				\$1.50	\$2.00	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
Person w/Disability	\$2.00				\$1.50	\$2.00	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
Student	\$2.50				\$2.00	\$2.00	\$1.00 - \$3.00 *
Zone Fare *	\$1.50 plus regular fare				\$3.00		
INTRACITY DIAL-A-RIDE (curb-to-curb) SERVICES							
General Fare	\$1.25	\$2.50 after 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$1.25	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
Senior	\$1.00	\$2.50 ADA until 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.00
Person w/Disability	\$1.00	\$2.50 ADA until 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.00
Student	\$1.25	\$2.50 after 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$1.25	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
Zone Fare *	\$1.50 plus regular fare				\$3.00		
MEDIVAN							
All Passengers	\$18.00 Round Trip	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	\$9.00 One-Way Trip						
	Attendants \$2.00 each way						
TRANSFERS							
All passengers	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	Not Available	Not Available

NOTE: * Zone fare is charged for service outside the normal service area.

Various fare discounts are available from all operators through the use of passes, bus cards or ticket books

**DECLARATION OF PUBLICATION
(C.C.P. S2015.5)**

**COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident Of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of Eighteen years, and not a party to or interested In the above entitle matter. I am a printer and Principal clerk of the publisher of **THE MODESTO BEE**, printed in the City of **MODESTO**, County of **STANISLAUS**, State of California, daily, for which said newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of **STANISLAUS**, State of California, Under the date of **February 25, 1951, Action No. 46453**; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each issue there of on the following dates, to wit:

MAY 25, JUNE 14, 20, 2008

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury That the foregoing is true and correct and that This declaration was executed at **MODESTO, California** on

JUNE 20, 2008


(Signature)

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING
CONSIDERATION OF FARE INCREASE
FOR STANISLAUS REGIONAL
TRANSIT SYSTEM (StaRT)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 24, 2008, at the hour of 9:10 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors will meet in the Basement Chambers, 1010 10th Street, Modesto, CA, to consider the introduction and waiving of the first reading of an ordinance amending transit fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit ("StaRT").

ADDITIONAL NOTICE IS GIVEN that the proposed ordinance will be available for review on May 25, 2008, in the Clerk of the Board Office, 1010 10th Street, Suite 6700, Modesto, CA. For further information, contact Brad Christian in the Stanislaus County Department of Public Works at (209) 525-6850 or at 1010 10th Street, Suite 3500, Modesto, CA.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the said time and place, interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard. Material submitted to the Board for consideration, (i.e. photos, petitions, etc.) will be retained by the County. If a challenge to the above application is made in court, persons may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Board. For additional information, call Brad Christian at (209) 525-7536.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Dated: May 20, 2008

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California
By: Elizabeth King, Assistant Clerk
MAY 25, JUNE 14, 20, 2008

5/20/08 *C-6

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