

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

DEPT: Public Works

BOARD AGENDA # \*B-2

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE March 15, 2011

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO

(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Set a Public Hearing on May 10, 2011 at 9:05 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 May 10, 2011 at 9:05 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 2011-2012 fare revenues are estimated to be \$462,445 of which \$86,000 will be generated by the proposed increases.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2011-152

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

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withrow, DeMartini, and Chairman Monteith

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None


1)  Approved as recommended

2)  Denied

3)  Approved as amended

4)  Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No. ORD-55-N-9

Approval to Set a Public Hearing on May 10, 2011 at 9:05 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 on May 10, 2011 to amend the ordinance for transit fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT), the County's intercity public transportation system. The proposed ordinance, if adopted for August 2011, will update the StaRT system fare structure. The last fare increase occurred in August 2008.

The reason for the fare increase is to ensure the bus system is compliant with the State-mandated farebox efficiency requirements. This is required under the Transportation Development Act, the State legislation that provides funds for the County Transit System. 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.

Through increased ridership, StaRT has been able to comply with its State-mandated farebox ratio and has been the only County transportation system to not request an exemption from farebox requirements and/or request a change in farebox ratio requirements. The Cities of Ceres, Turlock and Modesto and the Riverbank-Oakdale Transit Authority have all requested either an exemption or a change in require fare box ratio. However, as fuel costs, labor and insurance costs have increased, despite the 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 2011-2012 unless adjusted. The ordinance's adoption will enable the StaRT system to increase fare revenues by an estimated \$86,000 for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 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 2012-2013.

The proposed ordinance will include a fare increase for StaRT Fixed Route, Runabout Shuttle, Dial-a-Ride and Medivan services. The fare structure is broken into Fixed Stop (Fixed Route and Runabout), Runabout and Shuttle (Intercity Dial-a-Ride), Intracity Dial-a-Ride, Medivan and Intersystem and Intrasystem Transfers categories.

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

Approval to Set a Public Hearing on May 10, 2011 at 9:05 a.m. to Introduce and Waive the First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend Transit Fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT)

The proposed changes to the current fare structure are:

<b>Fixed Stop Service (Fixed Route and Runabout Services)</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Increase</b>
Cash Fare (one ride)			
General Fare	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$0.25
Student	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$0.25
Senior/Disabled	\$1.00	\$1.00	unchanged
Ticket Book (20 ride)			
General Fare	\$22.50	\$27.00	\$4.50
Senior/Disabled	\$18.00	\$18.00	unchanged
Bus Card (20 ride)			
General Fare	\$22.50	\$27.00	\$4.50
Student	\$21.25	\$25.50	\$4.25
Senior/Disabled (New)		\$18.00	New
31-Day Pass			
General Fare	\$45.00	\$45.00	unchanged
Student	\$40.00	\$40.00	unchanged
Senior/Disabled	\$30.00	\$30.00	unchanged
Route 70 (Modesto to Merced)			
General Fare	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$0.25
Senior/Disabled	\$2.00	\$2.25	\$0.25
<b>Runabout &amp; Shuttle (Intercity Dial-a-Ride Services)</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Increase</b>
Cash Fare (one ride)			
General Fare	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$0.25
Student	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$0.25
Senior/Disabled	\$2.00	\$2.25	\$0.25
Zone Fare for Service Outside Service Area	\$1.50 plus Regular fare	\$1.50 plus Regular fare	unchanged
<b>Intracity Dial-a-Ride</b>			
Cash Fare (one ride)			
General Fare	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$0.25
Student	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$0.25
Senior/Disabled	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$0.25
Zone Fare for Service Outside Service Area	\$1.50 plus Regular fare	\$1.50 plus Regular fare	unchanged

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**Medivan**

One-Way Ride	\$ 9.00	\$10.00	\$1.00
Round Trip	\$18.00	\$20.00	\$2.00
Attendant (one-way)	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00	\$1.00
Attendant (round-trip)	\$ 4.00	\$ 6.00	\$2.00

**Intersystem and Intrasystem Transfers**

\$0.25	Free	(\$0.25) decrease
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New \$5.00 and \$10.00 cash cards will be sold and may be used on all StaRT services for all fare types.

To encourage increased usage of the more cost-effective StaRT fixed stop services, there is no proposed cost increase for the Senior and Person with a Disability fares on the fixed stop services. For passenger savings and convenience, staff has also eliminated the cost of transfers between services. The decreased revenue from the sale of transfers, an estimated \$9,280, will be backfilled by revenues from the proposed fare increases of \$86,000.

The proposed StaRT fares, if adopted, will be lower than most San Joaquin and Merced County intercity fares and comparable to other local intracity fares. As shown in Exhibit B the StaRT fare structure will remain very affordable when compared with other local intercity and intracity public transportation services.

The farebox ratios for each service type will continue to be monitored annually for compliance and future fare adjustments made as necessary to ensure compliance with the adopted standards.

**POLICY ISSUES:**

This item is consistent with the Board's priority of striving for A Well Planned Infrastructure System. The fare increase will ensure compliance with the State-mandated efficiency standards. This item is consistent with the Board's priority of striving for A Healthy Community by providing necessary funding for local transit services provided by the County's public transit system, StaRT, to reduce single occupancy vehicle miles traveled and improve valley air quality.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

There are no staffing impacts associated with this action.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Brad Christian, Public Works Transit Manager. Telephone: 209-525-4130.

ORDINANCE NO. C.S. \_\_\_\_\_

**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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, by the following called vote:

AYES: Supervisors:

NOES: Supervisors:

ABSENT: Supervisors:

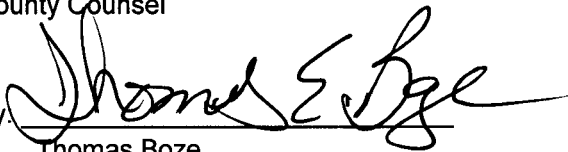
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dick Monteith  
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors  
of the County of Stanislaus, State of California

**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**

NOTE: \$5.00 and \$10.00 cash cards are available for use on all StaRT services and for all fare types.

**FARE STRUCTURE FOR STANISLAUS REGIONAL TRANSIT ("StaRT")**

<b>Fare Type</b>	<b>Cash Fare</b>	<b>20-Ticket Book</b>	<b>20-Ride Bus Card</b>	<b>31-Day Pass</b>
	<b>Fixed Stop (Fixed Route and Runabout)</b>			
General Fare	\$1.50	\$27.00	\$27.00	\$45.00
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$1.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$30.00
Student	\$1.50	NA	\$25.50	\$40.00
	<b>Runabout (Intercity Dial-a-Ride)</b>			
General Fare	\$2.75	NA	NA	NA
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$2.25	NA	NA	NA
Student	\$2.75	NA	NA	NA
Zone Fare for outside Service Area	Regular fare plus \$1.50			
	<b>Intracity Dial-a-Ride</b>			
General Fare	\$1.50	NA	NA	NA
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$1.25	NA	NA	NA
Student	\$1.50	NA	NA	NA
Zone Fare for outside Service Area	Regular fare plus \$1.50			
	<b>Route 70 to Merced</b>			
General Fare	\$2.75			
Senior/ Person w/ Disability	\$2.25			
	<b>Medivan</b>			
All Passengers		\$20.00 - Round trip		
		\$10.00 - One-way trip		
		Attendants \$3.00 each way		
	<b>Intersystem and Intrasystem Transfers</b>			
All passengers		Free		

**Effective August 2011**

**Exhibit B**

**CASH FARE COMPARISONS**

<b>Fare Type</b>	<b>StaRT Proposed Fares (Intercity)</b>	<b>Modesto (Intracity)</b>	<b>Turlock (Proposed) (Intracity)</b>	<b>Ceres (Intracity)</b>	<b>ROTA Riverbank/Oakdale Transit Authority (Intercity)</b>	<b>San Joaquin Regional Transit (Intercity)</b>	<b>Merced Cnty (Intercity)</b>
<b>FIXED STOP SERVICES</b>							
General Fare	\$1.50 (Rt. 70 Merced - \$2.75)	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$2.00	NA	\$2.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
Senior	\$1.00 (Rt. 70 Merced - \$2.25)	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$1.50	NA	\$2.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
Person w/Disability	\$1.00 (Rt. 70 Merced - \$2.25)	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$1.50	NA	\$2.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
Student	\$1.50 (Rt. 70 Merced - \$2.75)	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	NA	\$2.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
<b>RUNABOUT / INTERCITY DIAL-A-RIDE (curb-to-curb) SERVICES</b>							
General Fare	\$2.75	NA	NA	NA	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
Senior	\$2.25				\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
Person w/Disability	\$2.25				\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
Student	\$2.75				\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.00 - \$10.00 *
Zone Fare *	\$1.50 plus regular fare				\$5.00		
<b>INTRACITY DIAL-A-RIDE (curb-to-curb) SERVICES</b>							
General Fare	\$1.50	\$2.50 after 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$2.15	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.00
Senior	\$1.25	\$2.50 ADA until 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.00
Person w/Disability	\$1.25	\$2.50 ADA until 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.00
Student	\$1.50	\$2.50 after 6:00 pm	\$2.50	\$2.15	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.00
Zone Fare *	\$1.50 plus regular fare		\$3.50		\$5.00		
<b>MEDIVAN</b>							
All Passengers	\$20.00 Round Trip	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	\$10.00 One-Way Trip						
	Attendants \$3.00 each way						
<b>TRANSFERS</b>							
All passengers	Free	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.50	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

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on May 10, 2011, at 9:05 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 St., Modesto, CA, to consider the introduction and waiving of the first reading of the following proposed ordinances:

- A. An ordinance to establish new and amend existing fees for the Department of Parks and Recreation (for further information, contact Sonya Harrigfeld, Director of Parks and Recreation, at (209) 525-6750, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or visit the offices at 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C, Modesto, CA).
- B. An ordinance to establish a new fare for a Senior/Disabled bus card and to amend existing transit fares for Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT), the County's intercity public transportation system (for further information, contact Brad Christian, Stanislaus County Public Works Department, Transit Division at (209) 525-7538 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or visit the offices at 1010 10th Street, Suite 4204, Modesto, CA).

ADDITIONAL NOTICE IS GIVEN that the proposed Ordinances and Fee/Fare Schedules will be available for review on April 29, 2011, in the Clerk of the Board Office, 1010 10th Street, Suite 6700, 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 one or more of the above items 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 of Supervisors.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATED: March 15, 2011

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

BY:

  
Elizabeth A. King, Assistant Clerk



**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:

Apr 29, 2011, May 05, 2011

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BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. DATED: March 15, 2011.  
ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California; BY: Elizabeth A. King, Assistant Clerk  
Pub Dates Apr. 29, May 5, 2011

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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**

May 5th, 2011

(By Electronic Facsimile Signature)

Marie Dickmann