



BOARD AGENDA

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' CHAMBER
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

1055 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, California 93401
RTA starts at 8:30 am

The *AGENDA* is available/posted at: <http://www.slorta.org>

President: Frank Mecham

Vice President: Shelly Higginbotham

Board Members:

Frank Mecham (First District – SLO County)
Bruce Gibson (Second District – SLO County)
Adam Hill (Third District – SLO County)
Paul Teixeira (Fourth District – SLO County)
Debbie Arnold (Fifth District – SLO County)
Tony Ferrara (Arroyo Grande)

Tom O'Malley (Atascadero)
Debbie Peterson (Grover Beach)
Jamie Irons (Morro Bay)
Fred Strong (Paso Robles)
Shelly Higginbotham (Pismo Beach)
Jan Howell Marx (San Luis Obispo)

Individuals wishing accessibility accommodations at this meeting under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may request such accommodations to aid hearing, visual, or mobility impairment by contacting the SLORTA offices at 781-4472. Please note that 48 hours advance notice will be necessary to honor a request.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

PUBLIC COMMENTS: This portion of the agenda is reserved for any members of the public to directly address the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Board on any items not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Board. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board will listen to all communication, but in compliance with the Brown Act, will not take any action on items that are not on the agenda.

A. INFORMATION AGENDA

- A-1 Executive Director's Report (Receive)
- A-2 ADA Recertification & Other Potential Runabout Cost-Saving Measures (Receive)
- A-3 Summer Beach Shuttle (Receive)

B. ACTION AGENDA

- B-1 RTA Passenger Code of Conduct Policy (Approve)
- B-2 RTA FY13-14 and FY14-15 Budget Assumptions (Approve)
- B-3 RTA Board and RTAC Stipend (Approve)

C. CONSENT AGENDA: (Roll Call Vote) the following items are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the RTA or public wishes an item be removed. If discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately. Questions of clarification may be made by RTA Board members, without the removal of the item from the Consent Agenda. Staff recommendations for each item are noted following the item.

- C-1 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2012 (Approve)
- C-2 RTA Board Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2013 (Approve)
- C-3 FTA Section 5311 Non-Urbanized Area Resolution (Approve)
- C-4 FTA Section 5316 JARC Resolution (Approve)
- C-5 RTAC Appointments (Approve)

D. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- D-1-1 It is the intention of the Board to meet in closed session concerning the following items:

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code Sec. 54956.8)
Property: 179 Cross Street, San Luis Obispo, CA
Agency Negotiator: Geoff Straw
Negotiating Party: LTC of SLO, Ltd.
Under negotiation: Price and terms

E. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Next RTA meeting: May 1, 2013

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: A-1

TOPIC: Executive Director's Report

PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Information

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Operations:

In response to increasing demand on the Runabout service, staff will be providing an update on efforts to recertify existing eligible riders, as well as methods to increase efficiencies and other cost-saving alternatives. See item A-2 for details.

RTA celebrated its annual Safety Award program at the same time that we announced our quarterly Bus Operator of the Quarter on January 25th. We are proud to recognize Jewell Johnson as the Bus Operator of the Quarter. She was nominated by her peers for outstanding passenger relations and her willingness to help out others on the RTA team. Jewell typically drives the Route 12 runs in the afternoon, so please give her a hearty congratulatory wave if you see her driving on Route 12 between Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo. RTA is so pleased with the success of this program that we will be expanding it to include all Collective Bargaining Agreement-covered employees, so the newly-named "Employee of the Quarter" program will now include Mechanics and Vehicle Service Workers.

RTA's previous Bus Operator training class began on September 4th, 2012. Due to a few recent departures and employees out on long-term leave, we began a new class of four recruits on February 25th. That is the longest period of time between Bus Operator training classes that any current employee can recall. We expect the new trainees to be ready for revenue service in mid-April.

Maintenance:

We experienced an engine failure in bus 148, which had accumulated one million miles since it was placed in service in 1995. Due to the age and miles of this bus, as well as the fact that this bus is slated for replacement when the new Gillig low-floor buses begin arriving in April 2013, we have decided to forgo the ~\$12,000 cost to rebuild its engine. We anticipate incurring slightly higher overtime over the next couple of months for shop personnel in order to keep the remaining fleet in safe working order due to the loss of this bus.

The three wheelchair-accessible low-floor minivans that were delivered in January have been fully-equipped with ancillary equipment (two-way radios, GPS-based mobile data terminals, accident packages, etc.) and were placed in service in late February. Staff is excited about the improved maneuverability and reduced fuel costs of these minivans; we now have six of these vehicle types in Runabout revenue service.

Service Planning:

SLOCOG has recommended the award to RTA a total of \$10,000 in State Transit Assistance funds to plan for the eventual operation of an express service that would link the Five Cities area to downtown San Luis Obispo via State Route 227. Staff will keep your Board apprised as the stakeholder committee is assembled, and as service and capital alternatives are developed.

RTA staff continues to participate with stakeholders and the consultants engaged in the following planning efforts:

- North County Transit Plan – Staff continues to participate with staff from the cities of Atascadero and Paso Robles, as well as county staff, as this project moves forward.
- US 101 Bus Rapid Transit Study – Staff participated in the public meeting that was conducted on January 30, and we look forward to providing comments on the next study deliverable.

RTA continues to work with Cambria area officials to finalize plans for summer Cambria Trolley services.

Staff continues to work with SLOCOG and North County officials to develop final plans for the STA-funded Summer Beach program that will be implemented in June 2013. This service would provide three daily roundtrips / five days per week between Paso Robles / Atascadero, North Morro Bay and Cayucos via State Route 41. See item A-3 for further details.

Staff is proposing to seek FTA Section 5304 planning funds to conduct a joint Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) study effort with San Luis Obispo Transit. This joint effort would permit us to better coordinate our service and capital plans, while also studying some of the impediments of travel between our two agencies' routes. SLO Transit's SRTP expires in FY13-14, while RTA's technically expires in FY14-15. However, RTA SRTP was based on data from FY07-08, and a significant number of changes occurred between the time the study effort began and when it was finally adopted in December 2010. Two examples are that RTA constructed a new operations/maintenance facility in 2006 to 2008, and we took the service in-house in 2009. Under this joint planning effort, RTA would act as the lead agency to submit the grant application before the April 2 deadline.

As mentioned in the January 9th RTA Board meeting, the Amgen Tour of California bicycle race will end the 5th Stage in Avila Beach on Thursday May 16, 2013. Staff continues to work with SLO County officials to plan for impacts to transit services in the county and to help address transportation needs. Staff submitted a petition to the FTA to operate limited charter service (two trolleys) for this special event, although we have not yet received a formal response.

Finance and Administration:

Staff has assembled the fully-executed JPA documents for the County and six of the seven cities. Once the final city considers the JPA, RTA will have 30 days to submit the amended JPA to the Secretary of State. Staff will report back to the Board once this process has been completed.

Staff continues to investigate how pension reform and the Affordable Care Act will affect our business. We have participated in a number of webinars, and have researched data provided by CalPERS and other sources. Staff will provide a summary to the Executive Committee at its April 2013 meeting.

RTA is developing a two-year operating budget (first year financially constrained; second year for planning purposes) as part of this annual effort, while also incorporating a rolling five-year capital plan. The budget assumptions document is included as item B-2. It is our hope that the RTA Board will formally adopt the two-year budget at its May 1 meeting.

Staff is proposing a new stipend policy for city jurisdiction members (\$100 per Board meeting and \$50 per Executive Committee meeting). In addition, staff is proposing to provide RTA passes to RTA Board members and to RTAC members as compensation for serving on behalf of RTA. See item B-3 for details.

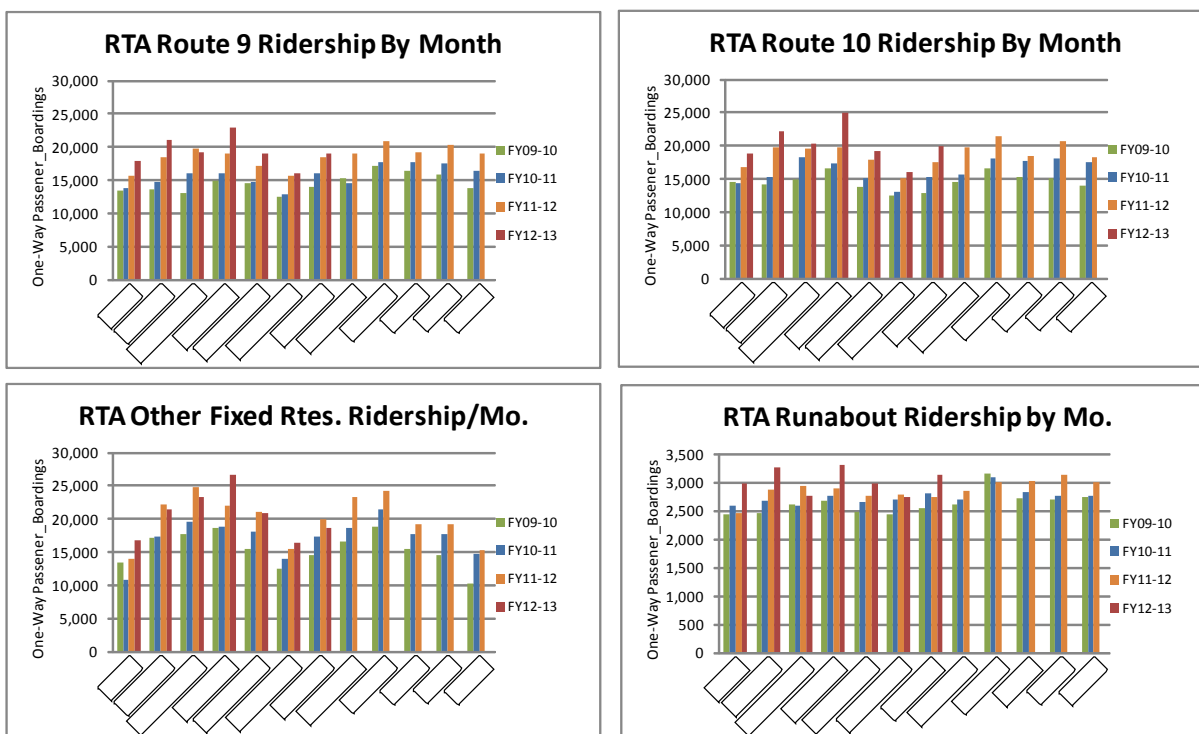
At the January Board meeting, staff reported on the operations-based performance standards identified in the RTA Strategic Business Plan. Staff is now finalizing a report on the remaining metrics, which we will provide to the Executive Committee at its April 10 meeting with the intent to report out at the May 1 Board meeting.

At the January 16 Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) meeting, the committee supported the Runabout recertification project and the stipend program; these items are included as A-2 and B-3, respectively, in your Board packets. The January 16 RTAC meeting minutes will be included at a future RTA Board meeting after the committee has the opportunity to review/approve them. Staff is recommending the appointment of two new RTAC members – Mark Dariz representing the disabled community, and Todd Katz as an alternate fixed-route representative – as item C-5.

Preliminary year-to-date January 2013 financials are included in the attached report. As shown, overall operating expenses totaled 54.2% of the annual budget, yet we completed 58.3% of the year. Staff continues to closely monitor fuel expenses and costs

related to the operation of Runabout service. Based on this mid-year financial review, no budget adjustment is needed at this time.

Fixed route ridership continues to remain strong with 425,587 passenger boardings through January 2013 in comparison to 389,902 in the previous year, representing a year-over-year increase of 9.2%. Runabout ridership continues to increase, although the very high increases seen in recent months appear to have abated to some degree. Year-to-date FY12-13 Runabout ridership totaled 21,165, compared to 19,415 during the same period in FY11-12. That represents a 9.0% increase. The graphs below depict ridership trends by month for Route 9, Route 10, other RTA fixed routes, and Runabout over the past three fiscal years.



RTA Facility Planning

SLO County Real Estate Services informed staff in late-December that they are unable to assist us valuating our current operations/maintenance facility. Staff worked with a commercial real estate broker to complete a market analysis, which suggested the purchase price option identified in our lease is close to the estimated value. Staff met with the property owner on January 25, but we were unable to agree on some of the terms in the sales agreement included in our lease. Staff will also work with the broker to assist us in developing a possible lease extension proposal. That proposal will be brought before the Board at its May meeting. We will discuss some possible next steps during agenda item D-1.

		Adopted Budget FY 2012-13	December Actual	January Budget	January Actual	January Variance	Year to Date FY 2012-13	Percent of Total Budget FY 2012-13
	Hours	61,187	4,354	5,099	4,988	111	33,435	54.64%
	Miles	1,554,777	114,315	129,565	129,444	121	885,396	56.95%
Administration:								
Labor	operations cost	736,692	54,337	61,391	71,515	(10,124)	374,598	50.85%
Labor - Administration Workers Comp	operations cost	33,081	2,423	2,757	2,423	334	17,720	53.57%
Office Space Rental	operations cost	401,278	29,348	33,440	31,954	1,486	238,832	59.52%
Property Insurance	operations cost	13,000	-	-	-	-	15,255	117.35%
Professional Technical Services	operations cost	127,520	1,694	11,477	1,575	9,902	25,704	20.16%
Professional Development	operations cost	10,000	2,690	1,000	205	795	4,828	48.28%
Operating Expense	operations cost	190,685	9,818	15,890	15,934	(44)	95,819	50.25%
Marketing and Reproduction	hourly	80,000	8,026	6,667	6,053	614	42,012	52.51%
County Management Contract	operations cost	(175,000)	(14,583)	(14,583)	(14,583)	-	(102,083)	58.33%
SCAT Management Contract	operations cost	(77,500)	(6,458)	(6,458)	(6,458)	-	(45,208)	58.33%
Total Administration		1,339,756	87,294	111,580	108,616	2,964	667,477	49.82%
Service Delivery:								
Labor - Operations	hourly	2,606,717	189,693	217,226	263,680	(46,454)	1,443,618	55.38%
Labor - Operations Workers Comp	hourly	185,537	13,674	15,461	13,589	1,872	99,471	53.61%
Labor - Maintenance	hourly	654,862	51,568	54,572	77,909	(23,338)	384,747	58.75%
Labor - Maintenance Workers Comp	hourly	58,336	4,273	4,861	4,273	589	31,249	53.57%
Fuel	miles	1,434,884	98,670	119,574	106,316	13,257	757,592	52.80%
Insurance	miles	276,335	22,793	23,028	22,772	256	159,347	57.66%
Special Transportation (includes Senior Vans, Lucky Bucks, etc)	n/a	79,925	6,459	6,660	6,221	439	45,645	57.11%
Avila Trolley	n/a	66,100	-	5,508	-	5,508	20,156	30.49%
Senior Shuttle	n/a	80,000	4,640	6,667	5,235	1,432	41,120	51.40%
Maintenance (parts, supplies, materials)	miles	486,355	28,608	40,530	41,947	(1,417)	303,125	62.33%
Maintenance Contract Costs	miles	124,283	5,860	10,357	17,508	(7,151)	86,379	69.50%
Total Operations		6,053,335	426,238	504,445	559,451	(55,007)	3,372,449	55.71%
Capital/Studies:								
Computer System Maintenance/Upgrades	hourly	6,678	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Miscellaneous Capital								
Automatic Ticket Machine	hourly	69,000	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Transmission Jack	hourly	7,480	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Wheel Alignment Tool	hourly	1,430	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Opacity Tester	hourly	6,820	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Coolant Flush Machine	hourly	4,290	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Camera System	hourly	61,787	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Bus Rehabilitation	hourly	100,000	-	-	-	-	24,824	24.82%
Bus Procurement Reserve	hourly	29,894	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Vehicles								
Seven 40' Coaches	hourly	3,326,000	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
One Dial A Ride Vehicle	hourly	95,000	85,752	-	-	-	85,752	90.27%
Five Low Floor Runabout Vans	hourly	224,510	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Total Capital Outlay		3,932,889	85,752	-	-	-	110,576	2.81%
Contingency	hourly	100,000	-	8,333	-	8,333	-	0.00%
Interest Expense	operations cost	168,585	14,099	14,049	14,099	(50)	101,045	59.94%
Loan Paydown		308,262	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Management Contracts		252,500	21,042	21,042	21,042	-	147,292	58.33%
TOTAL FUNDING USES		12,155,327	634,425	659,448	703,208	(43,760)	4,398,838	36.19%
TOTAL NON-CAPITAL EXPENDITURES		7,914,176	548,673	659,448	703,208	(43,760)	4,288,263	54.18%

***SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
YEAR TO DATE THRU JANUARY 31, 2013 - WEEKDAYS ONLY
CURRENT FISCAL YEAR - 2012/2013***

	RT 9 P.R., TEMP., ATAS., S.M., CAL POLY, S.L.O.	RT 10 S.M., NIPOMO, A.G., S.L.O.	RT 11 LOS OSOS, MORRO BAY	RT 12 MORRO BAY, CUESTA, SAN LUIS	RT 14 CUESTA, SAN LUIS TRIPPER	RT 15 SAN SIM., CAMBRIA, CAYUCOS, M.B.	RT 83 FORT HUNTER LIGGETT	TOTAL WEEKDAY
REVENUES:								
FARES	197,447	214,236	626	159,470	14,900	20,196	57,778	664,653
TOTAL ROUTE REVENUES	197,447	214,236	626	159,470	14,900	20,196	57,778	664,653
EXPENDITURES:								
ADMINISTRATION	126,347	127,213	1,434	83,598	6,506	30,151	13,972	389,221
MARKETING	12,504	12,589	116	8,274	670	2,985	0	37,137
OPERATIONS/CONTINGENCY	373,599	381,294	4,203	243,376	19,450	91,453	46,242	1,159,617
FUEL	158,910	171,323	1,710	96,770	9,302	43,083	28,558	509,655
INSURANCE	29,317	31,606	334	17,854	1,680	7,951	5,267	94,009
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	700,677	724,024	7,797	449,871	37,608	175,622	94,039	2,189,639
FAREBOX RATIO	28.18%	29.59%	8.03%	35.45%	39.62%	11.50%	61.44%	30.35%
RIDERSHIP	124,545	130,341	238	108,113	13,033	11,917	4,744	392,931
SERVICE MILES	167,426.90	180,512.20	1,999.20	101,944.40	9,552.60	45,373.00	30,076.00	536,884.30
SERVICE HOURS	5,470.10	5,507.83	66.98	3,618.67	280.20	1,304.63	604.44	16,852.85
RIDERS PER MILE	0.74	0.72	0.12	1.06	1.36	0.26	0.16	0.73
RIDERS PER HOUR	22.77	23.66	3.55	29.88	46.51	9.13	7.85	23.32
COST PER PASSENGER	5.63	5.55	32.76	4.16	2.89	14.74	19.82	5.57
SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	4.04	3.91	30.13	2.69	1.74	13.04	7.64	3.88

**SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
YEAR TO DATE THRU JANUARY 31, 2013
CURRENT FISCAL YEAR - 2012/2013**

	RT 9 SAT P.R., TEMP., ATAS., S.M., CAL POLY, S.L.O.	RT 9 SUN P.R., TEMP., ATAS., S.M., CAL POLY, S.L.O.	RT 10 SAT S.M., NIPOMO, A.G., S.L.O.	RT 10 SUN S.M., NIPOMO, A.G., S.L.O.	RT 12 SAT MORRO BAY, CUESTA, SAN LUIS	RT 12 SUN MORRO BAY, CUESTA, SAN LUIS	RT 15 SAT SAN SIM., MORRO BAY, SAN LUIS	RT 15 SUN SAN SIM., MORRO BAY, SAN LUIS	TOTAL WEEKEND	TOTAL FIXED ROUTE	RUNABOUT	SYSTEM TOTAL
REVENUES:												
FARES	11,949	7,284	13,684	8,337	8,837	6,622	2,790	1,993	61,496	726,149	57,932	784,081
TOTAL ROUTE REVENUES	11,949	7,284	13,684	8,337	8,837	6,622	2,790	1,993	61,496	726,149	57,932	784,081
EXPENDITURES:												
ADMINISTRATION	8,756	5,831	8,184	5,075	5,976	5,795	5,990	3,707	49,316	438,536	334,220	772,756
MARKETING	877	565	820	492	599	562	600	359	4,876	42,013	0	42,013
OPERATIONS/CONTINGENCY	25,741	17,230	24,386	15,122	17,215	16,749	18,118	11,210	145,772	1,305,389	919,489	2,224,878
FUEL	10,948	7,463	10,969	6,777	6,668	6,581	8,639	5,314	63,359	573,014	166,254	739,268
INSURANCE	2,015	1,377	2,019	1,251	1,227	1,214	1,590	981	11,674	105,683	49,508	155,191
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	48,338	32,468	46,378	28,717	31,685	30,902	34,938	21,572	274,997	2,464,636	1,469,471	3,934,106
FAREBOX RATIO	24.72%	22.44%	29.50%	29.03%	27.89%	21.43%	7.99%	9.24%	22.36%	29.46%	3.94%	19.93%
RIDERSHIP	6,749	3,955	7,154	4,029	4,765	3,534	1,418	1,052	32,656	425,587	21,165	446,752
SERVICE MILES	11,379.00	7,784.10	11,400.00	7,068.00	6,930.00	6,863.40	8,978.50	5,542.80	65,945.80	602,830.10	282,565.00	885,395.10
SERVICE HOURS	377.10	251.10	352.50	218.55	257.40	249.55	258.00	159.65	2,123.85	18,976.70	14,458.04	33,434.74
RIDERS PER MILE	0.59	0.51	0.63	0.57	0.69	0.51	0.16	0.19	0.50	0.71	0.07	0.50
RIDERS PER HOUR	17.90	15.75	20.30	18.44	18.51	14.16	5.50	6.59	15.38	22.43	1.46	13.36
COST PER PASSENGER	7.16	8.21	6.48	7.13	6.65	8.74	24.64	20.51	8.42	5.79	69.43	8.81
SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	5.39	6.37	4.57	5.06	4.80	6.87	22.67	18.61	6.54	4.08	66.69	7.05

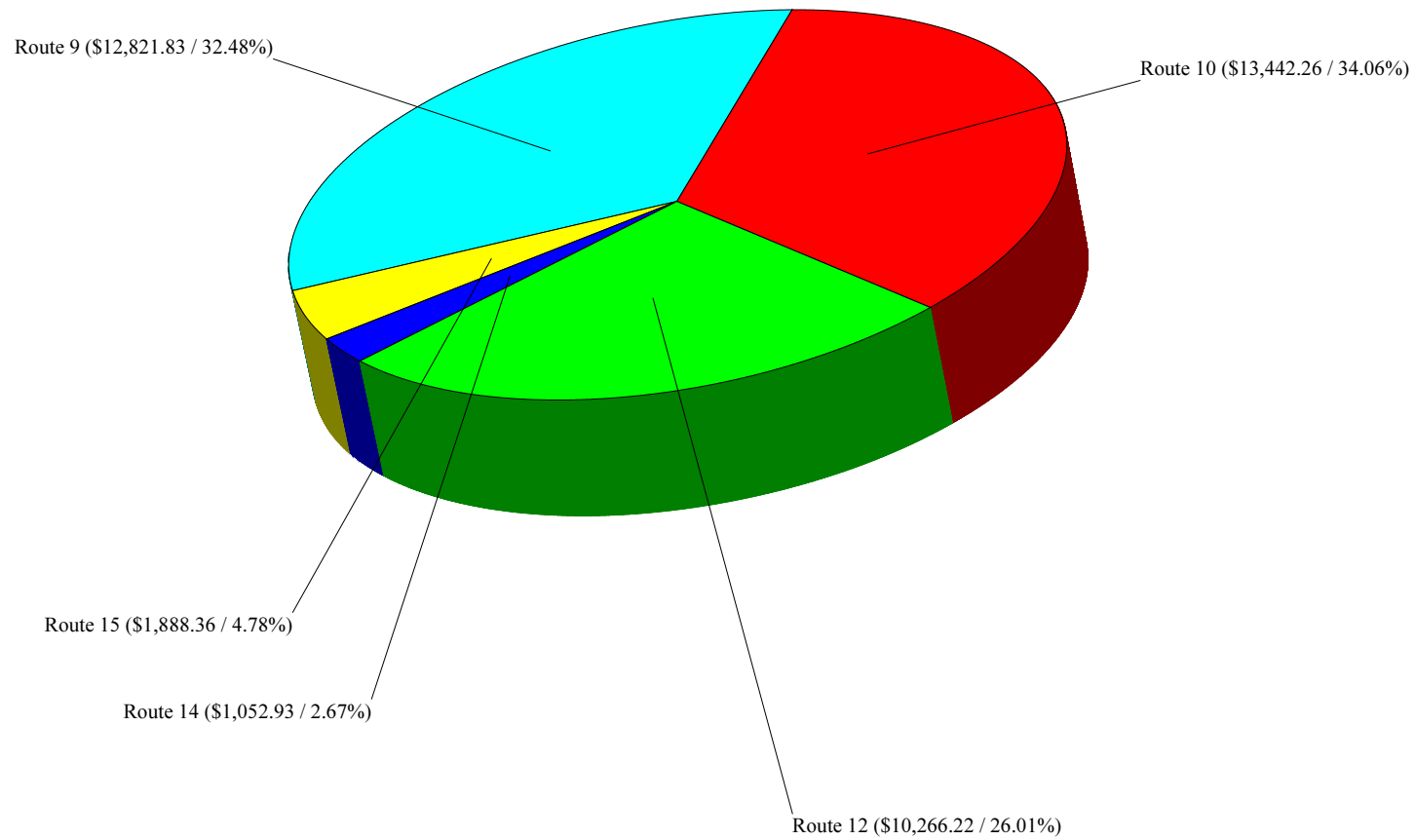
ROUTESUM REPORT
DECEMBER 01, 2012 - DECEMBER 31, 2012
179 CROSS ST - SLORTA

Revenue and Ridership By Route

Route	Current Revenue	Unclassified Revenue	Dump Count	Preset	Token Count	Ticket Count	Pass Count	Bill Count	Ridership
9	12,821.83	355.42	292	0	0	0	8,773	8,004	15,988
10	13,442.26	264.98	200	0	0	0	9,019	8,436	15,996
12	10,266.22	144.76	110	0	0	0	8,151	5,974	13,228
14	1,052.93	26.66	19	0	0	0	980	781	1,502
15	1,888.36	94.51	50	0	0	0	834	1,083	1,718
TOTAL	39,471.60	886.33	671	0	0	0	27,757	24,278	48,432

ROUTESUM REPORT
DECEMBER 01, 2012 - DECEMBER 31, 2012
179 CROSS ST - SLORTA

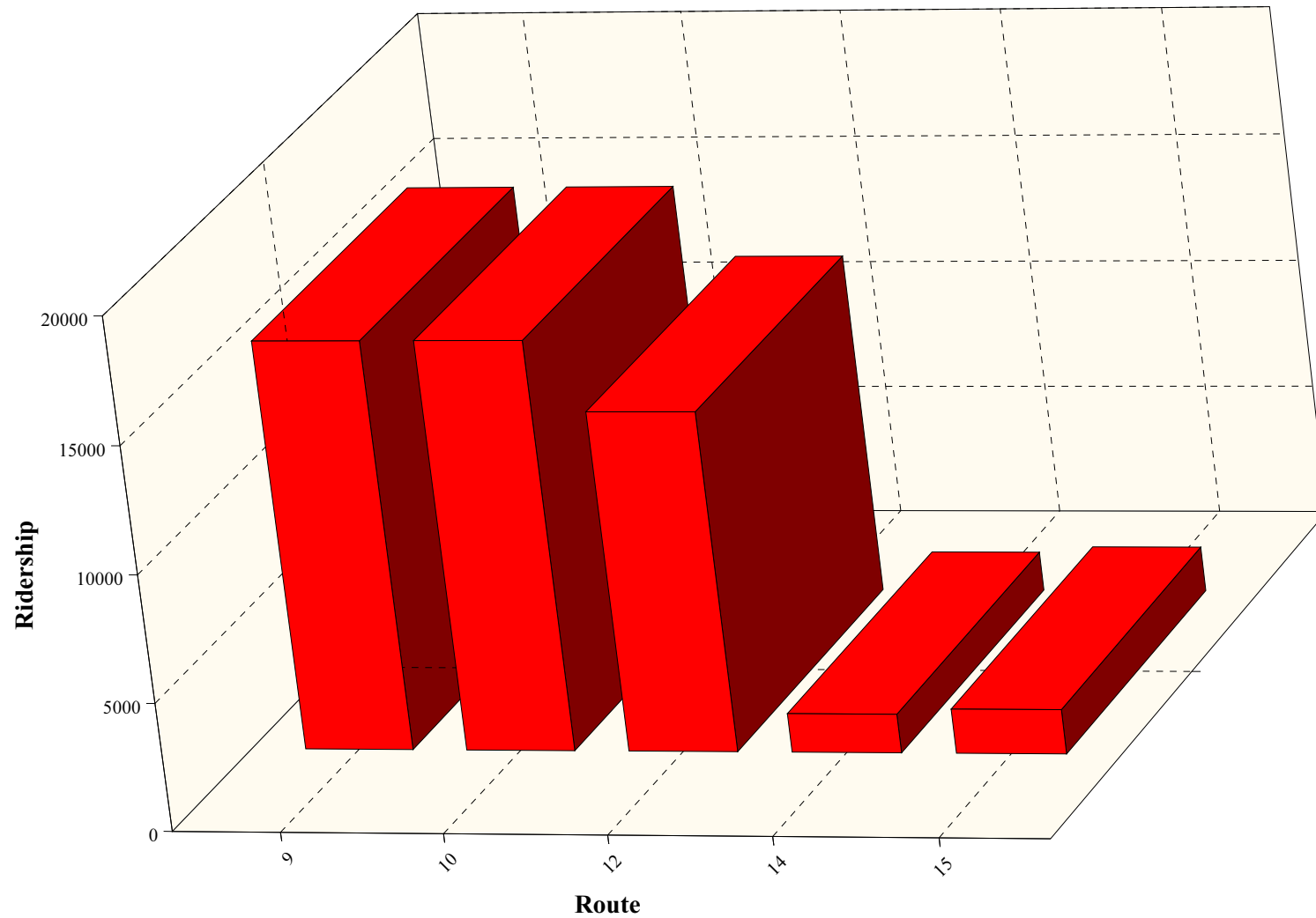
Revenue By Route



A-1-9

ROUTESUM REPORT
DECEMBER 01, 2012 - DECEMBER 31, 2012
179 CROSS ST - SLORTA

Ridership By Route



A-1-10

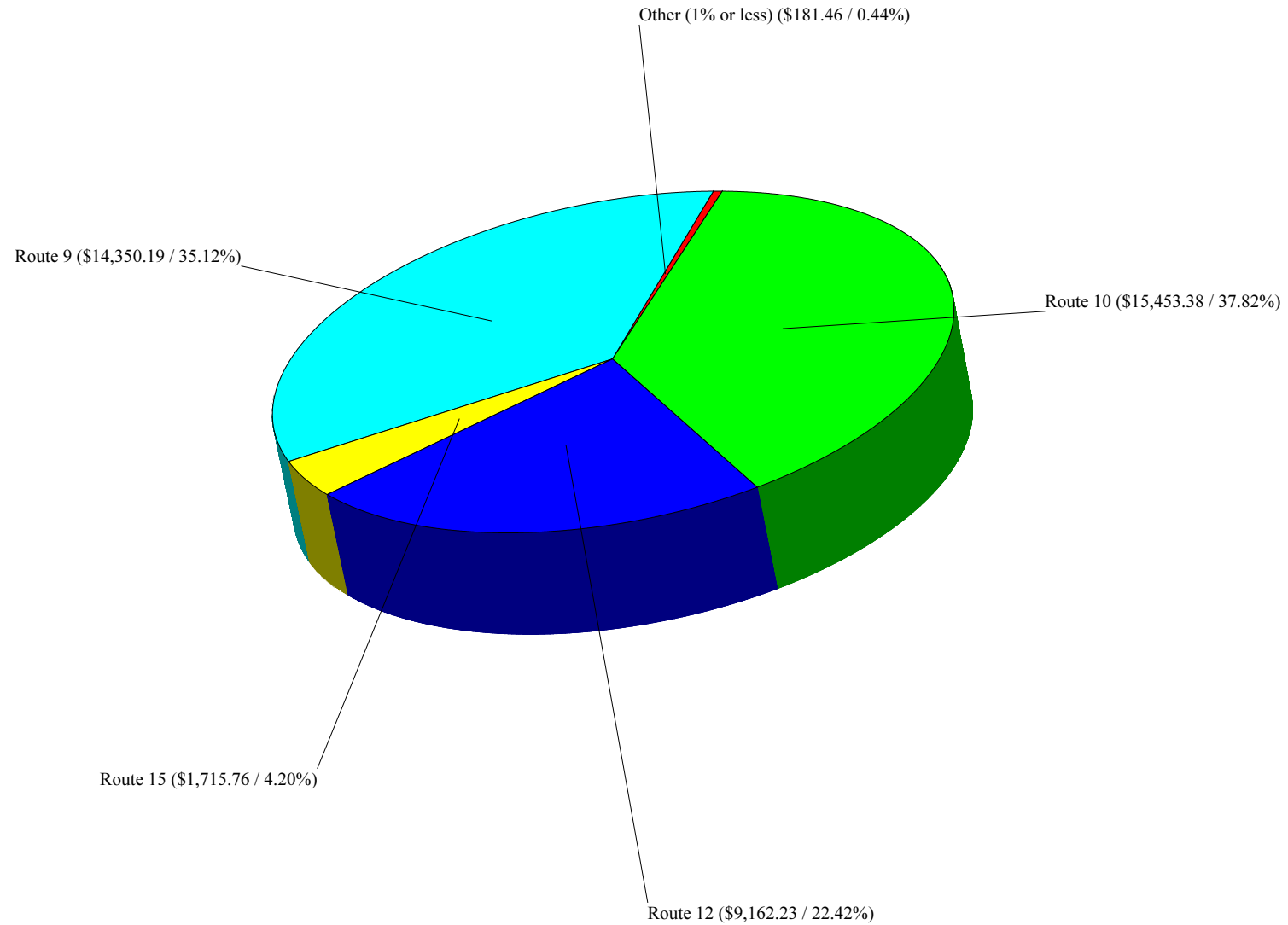
ROUTESUM REPORT
JANUARY 01, 2013 - JANUARY 31, 2013
179 CROSS ST - SLORTA

Revenue and Ridership By Route

Route	Current Revenue	Unclassified Revenue	Dump Count	Preset	Token Count	Ticket Count	Pass Count	Bill Count	Ridership
9	14,350.19	438.10	367	0	0	0	10,265	8,922	19,107
10	15,453.38	300.16	207	0	0	0	10,943	9,813	19,999
12	9,162.23	147.52	130	0	0	0	6,218	5,043	15,115
14	181.46	7.21	9	0	0	0	358	134	1,701
15	1,715.76	95.79	58	0	0	0	831	990	1,777
TOTAL	40,863.02	988.78	771	0	0	0	28,615	24,902	57,699

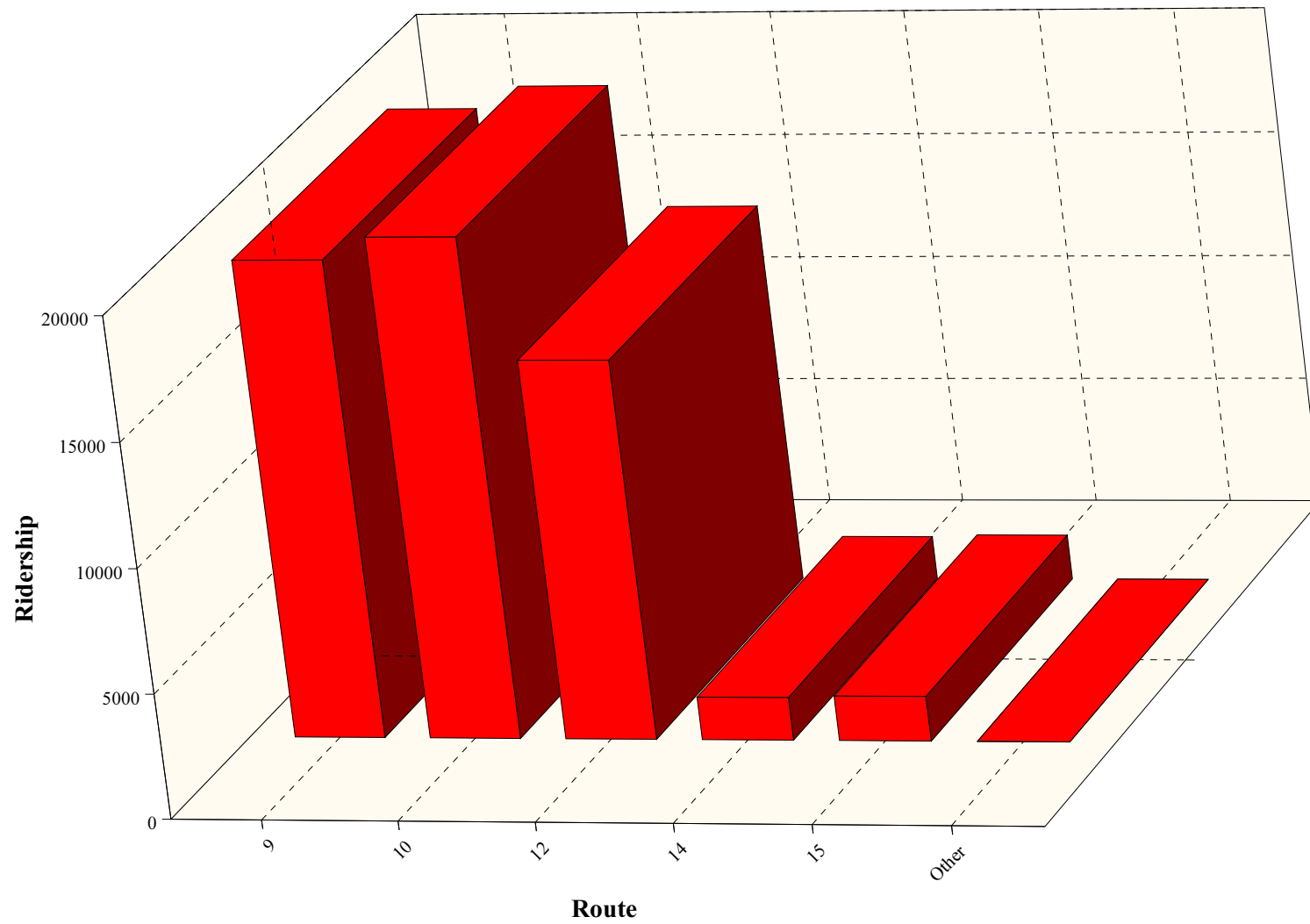
ROUTESUM REPORT
JANUARY 01, 2013 - JANUARY 31, 2013
179 CROSS ST - SLORTA

Revenue By Route



ROUTESUM REPORT
JANUARY 01, 2013 - JANUARY 31, 2013
179 CROSS ST - SLORTA

Ridership By Route



A-1-13

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: A-2

TOPIC: ADA Recertification & Other Potential Runabout Cost-Saving Measures

PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Receive

RTAC RECOMMENDATION: Receive and Support

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Executive Summary

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 provides protection for persons with disabilities in a number of areas, such as employment, public accommodations and transportation. The transportation elements of the ADA directed transit agencies to make their fixed route service fully accessible, while requiring transit agencies to also provide complementary paratransit service to individuals who are unable to use accessible fixed route service. Specifically, complementary paratransit service must be provided within ¾ miles of fixed routes during the same days and hours. In addition, the ADA is clear that a pattern of trips denials is unacceptable, and the FTA has taken action against transit agencies that have experienced only a small number of denials. The ADA permits trip schedulers to negotiate travel times one hour on either side of the requested time, and our staff does a good job of accommodating requests within these parameters. The RTA's Runabout service is the complementary paratransit provider for all fixed route services in San Luis Obispo County.

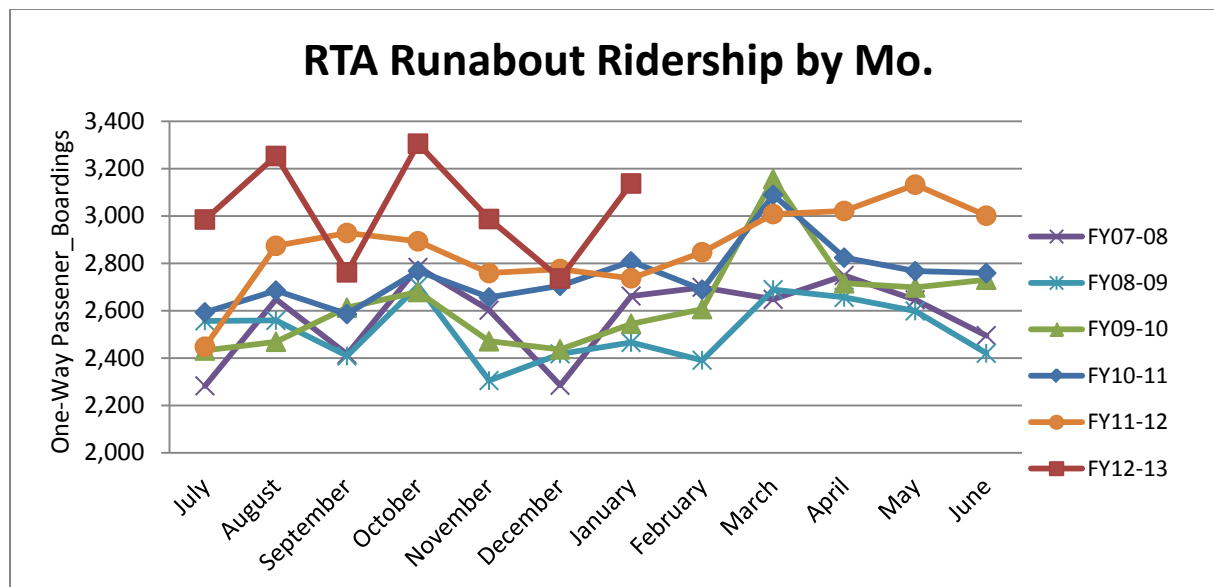
Demand for Runabout services is increasing and may soon outstrip the budgeted resources, despite staff's efforts to meet the demand for Runabout services in the a cost-effective and efficient manner. Staff is proposing to recertify current Runabout ADA eligible riders over a three-year period, and to implement the following in an attempt to control costs:

1. Fully Implement the No-Show Policy
2. Fund Fare-Free Fixed Route Service for Runabout Registrants
3. Formally Eliminate General Public Runabout Service

Staff will continue to monitor Runabout service levels and expenses to determine if a budget amendment might ultimately be needed

Background and Current Runabout Challenges

Ridership on Runabout has increased steadily over the past several years and even more so in past 12 months. As depicted in the graph below, monthly Runabout ridership over the past five-plus years trends relatively closely by month, with the months of March and October tending to be the highest each fiscal year. Two record monthly ridership totals were recorded on Runabout in October 2012, followed by August 2012, March 2010 and May 2012 (three of the four highest months were in the past 12 months).



Year over year Runabout ridership and other operating information from FY07-08 to present is depicted in the table below. As shown, ridership on Runabout has increased almost every year, although it declined slightly from FY07-08 to FY08-09. As also shown, annual service hours have increased year over year to meet burgeoning demand, with a significant increase between FY10-11 and FY11-12. Based on discussions with Runabout schedulers, productivity has declined slightly in the past few years as the number of long Runabout trips throughout the county has increased. There are no indications that these trends will change in the near future, and this will have an adverse impact on financial resources. It should be noted that the Runabout service is deemed “at capacity” right now, and RTA has experienced significant overtime by Runabout drivers to meet this increasing demand.

Runabout Service Parameters					
Year	Runabout Ridership	Change from Prev. Yr.	Annual Service Hours	Change from Prev. Yr.	Productivity
FY07-08	30,917	N/A	15,644	N/A	2.0
FY08-09	30,174	-2.4%	18,467	18.0%	1.6
FY09-10	31,554	4.6%	19,833	7.4%	1.6
FY10-11	32,929	4.4%	21,128	6.5%	1.6
FY11-12	34,424	4.5%	23,790	12.6%	1.4

RTA's current FY12-13 budget identifies a total of \$2,351,598 for Runabout services, although increasing ridership trends suggest that amount may be insufficient; staff is monitoring those costs to determine if a budget amendment might be required before year-end. There are not a lot simple solutions that can significantly reduce this demand in the future, although there are some alternatives that we could implement to try to rein in demand, as described below.

Recommended Future Measures

Recertify Runabout Eligibility

RTAC has supported the concept of recertifying eligible Runabout riders to ensure that the service is provided to those that meet the eligibility requirements. This recertification effort will require significant staff time and coordination, and a preferred method used in the transit industry is to recertify one-third of registrants each year over three years to avoid unduly overwhelming staff resources. It is our intent to use existing staff members to complete the recertification process, and RTA will address how the staffing requirements will impact the budget during the FY13-14 budget-making process.

The RTA *Runabout ADA Paratransit Application* for service, as well as a Frequently Asked Questions brochure, is attached at the end of this document. As indicated, the five-page application focuses on functional abilities as it relates to the **inability** of the applicant to use fixed route services to meet all of his or her travel needs. This is not an exclusively self-determination process, since we require a doctor or case worker to complete the application. It should be noted that the ADA permits conditional certification based upon physical barriers or other environmental conditions (i.e., inclement weather) that prevent the person from using fixed route services for a particular trip. Conditional eligibility permits transit agencies to determine on a trip-by-trip basis if a complementary ADA paratransit trip should be provided. However, in practice, there are not any transit agencies – even very large ones – that have been fully successful in implementing conditional eligibility, since it typically requires specialized medical and vocational training for eligibility staff and schedulers that is beyond the resources available within a transit agency. As such, RTA either grants full eligibility or denies it based on the application.

Similar to the majority of transit agencies across the United States, eligibility determinations are made by RTA clerical staff whose primary experience is in the transit field rather than the disability or health care professions. The primary RTA staff person making these eligibility determinations has received training through a variety of means, including focused training classes, continual review of state of the practice reports, and through peer networking. However, given the substantial fiscal and social implications associated with false positive certifications, training eligibility certifiers to conduct accurate eligibility certifications becomes a significant issue. Nonetheless, staff is confident that we have developed a very cost-effective and defensible eligibility determination process, and that staff is doing a great job in this arena.

Fully-Implement the No-Show Policy

Staff is currently implementing a no-show policy that includes suspension of service in an attempt to reduce the frequency of riders that book trips but fail to show up for the ride. Passenger no-shows reduce efficiencies and potentially deny service to persons who otherwise might have preferred that time to travel. We have worked closely with our computerized dispatching software vendor in the past several months to enable us to effectively manage the policy, although we have struggled to meet our project milestones due to delays caused by the vendor. Nonetheless, it is anticipated that the no-show policy program will be fully implemented by the end of FY12-13.

Fund Fare-Free Fixed Route Service for Runabout Registrants

Another option to reduce demand is to provide reduced or free fixed route fares to encourage fixed route travel by ADA paratransit registrants. As mentioned above, RTA either grants full eligibility or denies it, with the realization that some riders might be capable of using fixed route services for one or both legs of their roundtrip. With the understanding that the per passenger cost on Runabout is roughly twelve times that of the per passenger cost on fixed route services, RTA and SCAT implemented a program whereby persons showing an ADA eligibility card can board fixed routes buses for free. In order to further relieve the burgeoning demand for Runabout services, we are proposing that the other fixed route transit operators in the county do the same. Under this scenario, RTA would provide as compensation the Average Passenger Fare¹ multiplied by the number of ADA eligible passenger boardings; this would be reconciled on a monthly or possibly quarterly basis. The recent incorporation of GFI fareboxes by RTA and SCAT can simplify this process, since SLO Transit already has GFI fareboxes. However, we would have to devise a method to account for local fixed route use on the Paso Express, Morro Bay fixed route, and Atascadero El Camino Shuttle services.

¹ "Average Passenger Fare" is defined as the total fixed route passenger fares reported in the transit operator's previous State Controller Report divided by the number of passengers.

Formally Eliminate General Public Runabout Service

Although RTA marketing materials continue to state that Runabout service is provided on a space-available basis, in reality RTA has not been able to accommodate a general public request in over two years due to a lack of capacity to carry general public riders. As such, staff recommends that we conduct a public outreach effort in the coming months to solicit input from the community regarding the formal elimination of this language from all marketing materials. Even though this will not technically result in any cost savings – since we would not be reducing service levels – formally eliminating the notion that general public dial-a-ride service is available in our marketing materials might clear up some confusion and/or expectations of service by would-be general public riders.

Other Potential Future Measures

1. *Implement a travel training program* – this type of program provides one-on-one outreach to ADA eligible riders to encourage them to use fixed route when conditions permit. There has been varied success of this type of program, although there are firms that specialize in providing this service on a consulting or train-the-trainer basis.
2. *Work toward trip-swapping with Ride-On* – since both RTA and Ride-On recently implemented RouteMatch computerized dispatching systems, there is a possibility of viewing each others' trip manifests electronically. Under this scenario, if one agency has unscheduled or difficult-to-schedule trips on a particular day, we could see if the other agency could group it with an already scheduled trip. We have begun discussions and will continue to work with RouteMatch to determine if this coordination is possible and what sorts of resource commitments are feasible.
3. *Implement a subsidized taxicab program* – this has been implemented in a number of areas throughout the United States, with varying degrees of success. In some cases, local taxicab licensing jurisdictions have required taxicab companies to utilize accessible minivans in a portion of their fleet. In others, the transit agency acts as a broker and attempts to schedule ambulatory riders in traditional taxicabs. Some of the challenges are getting the taxicab companies to comply with FTA-required drug and alcohol testing programs, as well as resistance by transit unions to replace work that might have been provided by covered employees.

4. *Eliminate or reduce subscription trips* – RTA currently permits riders who have regular trips (i.e., a job with regular hours throughout the week) to schedule on-going trips on a subscription basis. These types of trips can be efficiently scheduled when grouping with other riders is possible. Subscription service is permitted under the ADA, but it is not required. Reducing or eliminating the subscription program will make the service less desirable for riders, since they will have to call to schedule trips on a more frequent basis and they might choose another travel option (if available/possible).
5. *Reduce the booking window* – our current policy permits riders to schedule trips up to seven days in advance, although the ADA only requires next-day scheduling. It should be noted that schedulers can typically more effectively group trips when a longer booking window is provided, so the productivity of a next-day scheduling scenario tends to be relatively lower in comparison. Next-day scheduling might also require additional Runabout scheduler resources in comparison to a seven-day booking system, since the requests tend to come in right before the scheduling window closes (5:00 PM the day previous to service).
6. *Call-backs for next-day rides* – another option is to take requests until 5:00 PM, then the schedulers would group the trips for the next service day; the schedulers would then be forced to call each rider back to tell him or her exactly when they are scheduled to ride the next day – taking into account the one-hour scheduling window permitted under the ADA. This tends to result in very efficient grouped trips for each driver, although there tends to be a very low satisfaction rate by riders, since they do not know the details of their trip until the night before they ride. It also results in challenges for riders whose return leg of their roundtrip cannot be scheduled exactly (i.e., a doctor appointment that might go longer than expected).

Another cost-saving measure that was not discussed at RTAC, but might be worthy of future consideration is conversion of the RTA Route 15 service along the North Coast to a route deviation service. In essence, the Route 15 service would deviate up to $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile from the Route 1 corridor, thereby eliminating the need for Runabout complementary paratransit service between Morro Bay and the Hearst Castle. Route 15 and accompanying Runabout service is currently being partially funded with a Jobs Access Reverse Commute grant that expires at the end of FY13-14, so any changes would likely need to occur after that since-eliminated JARC funding program grant is fully expended.

PART 2: INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DISABILITY

Does your disability prevent you from using the fixed route bus service by yourself?

☐ Yes ☐ No

What is the name of the disability or condition(s) that prevent(s) you from using the regular (fixed route) bus?

Please explain how your disability or condition prevents you from using the fixed route bus?

Do you use a service animal?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If YES, what type of service animal is it and what task was the animal trained to perform?

Do you use any of the following mobility aids (check all that apply)?

☐ Manual Wheelchair ☐ Cane ☐ Powered Scooter
☐ Powered Wheelchair ☐ Walker ☐ Portable Oxygen
☐ Other, Please explain: _____

Will you travel with a Personal Care Attendant?

☐ No, Never ☐ Yes, Always
☐ Sometimes

Explain:

PART 3: INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR TRAVEL ABILITIES

Be sure to answer all questions on this page completely.

What is the closest bus stop to your home? (Please give an intersection)

Can you get to the bus stop nearest to your home by yourself?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, why not? _____

Can you walk $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile or more by yourself? Or can you propel yourself $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile by yourself in a wheelchair if you use a wheelchair?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain: _____

Do you have a visual impairment that prevents you from seeing/recognizing your bus and/or destination?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe your visual impairment: _____

Can you understand and follow directions to get to your destination?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain: _____

Are you able to board a bus equipped with a wheelchair lift or that has the capability of lowering the front steps?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain: _____

PART 4: APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

I understand that the purpose of this application is to determine if I am eligible for RTA's Runabout paratransit services and that RTA staff may need to talk to me later to get more information. Additionally, I understand that eligibility for ADA paratransit certification is based only on my functional abilities as they relate to accessing and riding the fixed route bus services; I understand that disability and/or age do NOT automatically make me eligible for paratransit certification.

By signing this application, I certify that I have been truthful in answering this form and that the information provided is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of this information could result in a loss of ADA certification.

Signature

Date

PART 5: APPLICANT AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF MEDICAL INFORMATION

I authorize the following professional to release to RTA information about my disability and health condition and its effect on my ability to travel on RTA buses. I understand that RTA staff may need to contact my medical professional later to get more information.

All medical information, which you or your healthcare professional provide, will be kept confidential to the extent permitted under the law except that information may be shared with other professionals or agencies involved in the determination of your eligibility.

Signature

Date

PART 6: TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF ANOTHER PERSON HELPED THE APPLICANT IN THE COMPLETION OF THIS FORM.

Name of person giving assistance: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work): _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MEDICAL PROFESIONAL

The Applicant, _____ (write the applicant's name), has indicated that you can provide information regarding his/her health condition and its impact on his/her ability to utilize the fixed route transit system. Federal law requires that all transit entities operating a public fixed route transit system must provide a comparable paratransit service to persons who cannot utilize available fixed route services due to disability. The information you provide will allow RTA to appropriately evaluate this application.

When you have completed this page, return the ORIGINAL copy to the Applicant. They will submit this application to the Regional Transit Authority. No copies, faxes, or incomplete applications will be processed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

The following questions must be answered in order for the application to be processed.

Question #1 Have you treated the Applicant?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Question #2 Are you familiar with the Applicant's functional abilities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Question #3 Is the Applicant functionally prevented from riding on the normal fixed-route bus service because of a disability or health condition?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If the answer to Question #3 is YES, please complete the following:

State the Applicant's disability/health condition (all that apply):

The expected duration of the Applicant's disability/condition is: _____

The Applicant's health condition prevents them from (check all that apply):

_____ Navigating the system (knowing when/where to board/disembark)

_____ Riding in a vehicle that is not lift equipped

_____ Travelling independently to and from bus stops.

Name/Title: _____

Office Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Office Telephone Number: _____

License/Certification Number: _____

Signature

Date



Frequently Asked Questions

What is ADA complementary paratransit?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal Law that requires public transit agencies that provide fixed-route service to provide “complementary (equivalent) paratransit” services to people with disabilities who cannot use the fixed-route bus because of a disability. ADA complementary paratransit service must be provided within 3/4 of a mile of a bus route, at the same hours and days, for no more than twice the regular fixed route fare.

What is Runabout?

Runabout is the name of the ADA Paratransit Service for San Luis Obispo County. Runabout is an “origin to destination” service, meaning that Runabout will take riders directly from their starting location to their destination and back, if required. Riders will be given a “window” of time during which they must be ready to be picked up. A Runabout vehicle may arrive anytime during that “window”. Runabout drivers will assist passengers in getting on and off the bus; however they are not permitted to cross the threshold of any personal residence.

How do I schedule my rides?

Riders may make reservations up to seven (7) days in advance (recommended), but no later than 5:00 PM the day before their planned trip. To make a reservation, please call Runabout Dispatch at (805) 541-2544 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, seven days a week.

How much does Runabout cost?

The cost of a trip on Runabout is twice the cost of the same trip if it were taken on the fixed-route system. For specific trip pricing, please call 541-2544. For your convenience, Punch Passes, good for thirty dollars (\$30) worth of rides, can be purchased and used on Runabout.

Can I have an attendant or companion?

Runabout clients are allowed to have one (1) free personal care attendant (PCA). A PCA can be anyone that assists the rider; however PCA's cannot be in a wheelchair. Anyone traveling as a companion without providing needed assistance to the client must pay the full fare. Additionally, if there is a second PCA, that person is also required to pay a full fare. If you will be travelling with a PCA, be sure to tell the dispatcher that this will be the case. Children six years old and younger are allowed to ride for free with a paying adult.

Who can ride Runabout?

The ADA requires that paratransit rides be provided to all eligible riders if requested within seven (7) days prior to their requested trip (up to 5:00 PM the previous day). Anyone can ride Runabout; it is available to the General Public. However only riders who meet the criteria specified by the ADA and have been certified as eligible will have a guaranteed ride.

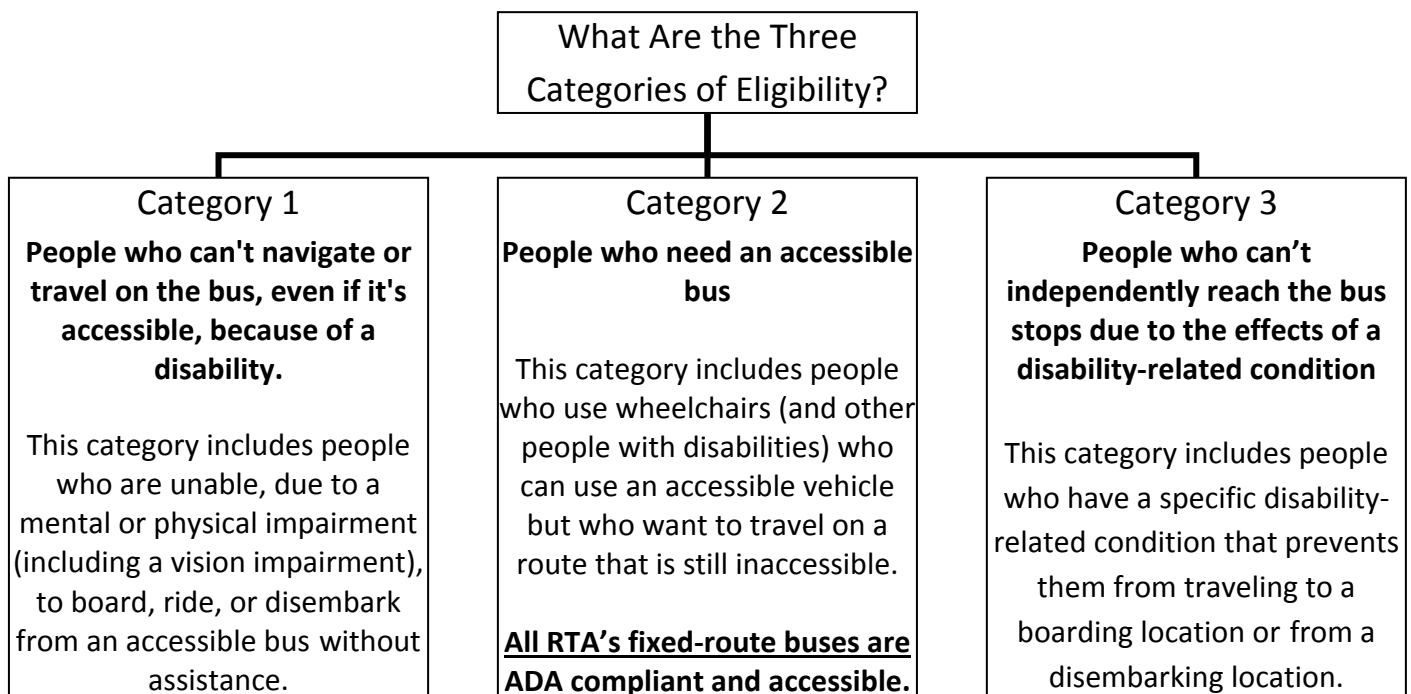


Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for ADA certification?

The ADA law mandates that paratransit be made available to those persons whose disability PREVENTS them from using accessible fixed-route bus services.

- This does not include people who find it uncomfortable, inconvenient or somewhat difficult to get to or from fixed route bus services.
- Persons do not qualify for ADA certification automatically because they have a disability or due to age.
- ADA certification is based on a person's functional (physical or cognitive) limitations in riding or reaching the fixed-route system. There are three specific categories of eligibility used in determining a person's functional limitations.



How Do I Get Certified?

Applications can be found on our website www.slorta.org or by calling (805) 781-4833 to have one mailed.

Fill out the Runabout Application (the first four pages are applicant information to be filled out by the applicant or a representative. The fifth page is to be filled out by a medical professional or case worker familiar with the applicant and their condition). Completed original applications must be submitted by mail to the RTA office (179 Cross Street, Suite A, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401). RTA will review and process the application, and the applicant will be notified of a decision within twenty-one (21) days of RTA's receipt of the application.

If you have any remaining questions about ADA paratransit, Runabout, or the application process, please call RTA administration at: (805) 781-4833

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: A-3

TOPIC: Operating Plan for Summer Beach Shuttle from June 7 – August 24, 2013 on a trial basis

ACTION: Receive Operating Plan, and authorize staff to proceed with development of final Institutional Plan

PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Authorize staff to develop Institutional Plan

RTAC RECOMMENDATION: Will be presented at April 17 RTAC meeting

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

In the past two years, the City of Paso Robles has sought local funding for a Summer Beach Shuttle program that would provide more convenient transit access to the cooler coastal region. Transit riders currently have the option of taking hourly service on RTA Route 9 to San Luis Obispo (greater than 60 minutes of travel time), and then they must connect to the hourly RTA Route 12 service, which takes an additional 30 minutes of travel time to reach Morro Bay. Less frequent connections are available on RTA Route 15 northward towards Cayucos and Cambria. Given the long travel time, just to get to Morro Bay, more convenient service is worth consideration.

The question is whether the perceived demand can be provided with an efficient and attractive enough service to cover an acceptable proportion of operating costs.

SLOCOG has agreed to fund a first year trial of the operations with \$40,000 in State Transit Assistance funding.

Using that funding, RTA proposes to run service on three roundtrips per day, five days per week, Tuesday through Saturdays. The service would begin on Friday, June 7, 2013, and run through Saturday, August 24, 2013. The proposed timetable will be distributed during the meeting.

Staff recommends proceeding with this service on a trial basis, based on the Operating Plan that is described above. In order to best determine the Summer Beach Shuttle's success or shortcomings, staff is recommending the following measurable ridership and revenue goals, as described below:

- Ridership – 9.5 passengers per service hour / 60 passengers per day, which equates to 3,450 trips for the summer 2013 season.
- Farebox Revenues: It is anticipated that the Summer Youth Ride Free Program will be continued throughout the county in 2013, and therefore revenue from fare-paying adults on this service will be relatively low, due to an expected high proportion of youth riders. However, if ridership targets are met, RTA expects about 30% of riders to be non-youth, and paying the \$5 round-trip Day Pass rate. This would achieve \$2,588 in revenue (equating to ~6% in farebox recovery) for the first year of service. Staff believes that ensuring there is appropriate demand for the service is important, prior to setting higher revenue targets for ensuing summer seasons. If the demand is proven after the first summer, discussions can entail about whether or not the service would qualify for continued STA or other new funding, and/or if we should seek additional advertising support from community partners (that would count as farebox revenue).

Staff would provide a report on the performance of the Summer Beach Shuttle in comparison to these goals at the November 6 RTA Board meeting.

To ensure the success of the Summer Beach Shuttle, staff is currently working to finalize the following Institutional Plan elements:

- Community Support: Staff expects that the new service will be appealing to many summer youth (and possibly even senior) group programs. Ridership support is important, but it is probably more important to gain participation in travel training programs that include information on how to ride transit and available schedules throughout local cities and the county, what types of fare media are available and how to use them, and etiquette about riding the bus (keeping voices low, avoiding loud cell phone conversations, sharing seats with those in greater need, boarding in the front and exiting in back, etc.). In particular, community support will also be expected from schools and community groups (i.e., YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs, Church Groups) to actively take part in these training outreach programs to ensure success in attaining the ridership performance measures presented above. Further support will be sought to help commit funding for future years of service if the program is initially proven successful and valuable to residents in the North County.

Staff Recommendation:

Receive this report. Final operating and institutional plans will be provided at the May 1, 2013 RTA Board meeting.

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: B-1

TOPIC: Passenger Code of Conduct

PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Passenger Code of Conduct Policy

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: As presented at the January 9 RTA Board meeting, RTA does not currently have a written policy to address behavioral problems that occur on transit property. When behavior is especially egregious on RTA property, our Dispatchers enlist the assistance of law enforcement officials. This recommended policy will address behavior that might not quite rise to the level of criminal activity yet the unwanted behavior directly impacts our employees and in some cases might dissuade riders from choosing public transportation as a viable travel alternative.

This policy document is largely based on the one adopted by City of San Luis Obispo for its transit system in June 2000. Not only is the SLO Transit conduct policy a great document, but using it as a basis for our own policy will provide consistency in terms of expectations for passengers across the region. The final policy document was refined after consulting with our employees, other transit providers in the region, the RTAC at its January 16 meeting, and RTA Legal Counsel.

The final RTA Passenger Code of Conduct policy incorporates input received. Any additional language is highlighted/underlined, while any suggested deletions are ~~highlighted/struck-through~~. In general, input was focused on elevating fifth or greater minor infractions and third or greater major infractions directly to the highest disciplinary action (instead of starting over). In addition, staff recommends identifying that RTA will seek a court restraining order for criminal behavior that could potentially impact Bus Operators or other RTA staff members.

Staff Recommendation

Adopt the Passenger Code of Conduct policy as presented.

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

PASSENGER CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

ARTICLE I, PURPOSE

Behavior on transit property is governed by California Penal Code 640 and other statutes. The purpose of this document is to establish the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (RTA) policy and procedures governing passenger conduct on RTA property and associated limitations on access to RTA property as a result of infractions of acceptable conduct as described herein.

ARTICLE II, BACKGROUND

RTA is the intercity fixed route and demand response public transit service provider in San Luis Obispo County. RTA is a qualified Federal Transit Administration grantee, and works closely with the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments to plan for Federally-funded public transit services in the region. RTA's role as a public agency is to treat all citizens, groups, and political jurisdictions equally.

Proper passenger behavior on RTA property is essential for providing quality service to the members of our community and for ensuring safety for all transit patrons and RTA employees. Establishing a passenger code of conduct and an associated disciplinary process is a necessary component to maintain the existing high levels of service for all transit patrons.

RTA is governed by its 12-member Board of Directors, comprised of the five San Luis Obispo County Supervisors and elected officials from Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Grover Beach, Morro Bay, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo. The Board is charged with budget-making and policy development responsibilities.

ARTICLE III, DEFINITIONS

1. "RTA property" means the transit vehicles, and bus stops and other passenger public transportation system facilities owned, leased or operated by RTA. A facility or vehicle of a "Public transportation system" is defined by Section 99211 of the Public Utilities Code.
2. "RTA employee" means all duly authorized RTA staff members, including drivers, supervisors, managers and contracted employees.

ARTICLE IV, SUSPENDABLE BEHAVIOR

Table 1 lists activities and descriptions of behaviors that are either expressly prohibited or allowed on RTA property. Unless otherwise deemed a "Major Infraction" below, suspendable behavior will be considered a "Minor Infraction."

Table 1 – RTA Passenger Code of Conduct

Type of Conduct	Transit Vehicles	Passenger Facilities
(1) Displaying or offering for sale, selling, or distributing goods or services.	Prohibited, except by written agreement	Prohibited, except by written agreement
(2) Distributing literature.	Prohibited	Prohibited
(3) Posting or affixing leaflets or signs to transit property.	Prohibited	Prohibited
(4) Performing instrumental/vocal music.	Prohibited	Allowed
(5) Transporting animals.	Prohibited, except in a secure container, or a service animal as defined in 49 CFR Section 37.3	Prohibited, except in a secure container, or a service animal as defined in 49 CFR Section 37.3
(6) Skateboarding, roller skating, bicycle riding, or rollerblading in a system facility, vehicle, or parking structure ¹ .	Prohibited	Prohibited
(7) Drinking non-alcoholic beverages or eating.	Prohibited, except drinking from a container with an attached lid designed to prevent spillage when held upside down	Allowed
(8) Drinking alcoholic beverage or possessing an open container of same. (MAJOR INFRACTION)	Prohibited	Prohibited
(9) Willfully blocking the free movement of another person in or on RTA property, including placing objects that block aisles, stairways or seats ² .	Prohibited, except at driver's discretion if space allows; strollers must be folded prior to boarding	N/A
(10) Loitering or storing personal property ³ .	Prohibited	Prohibited

¹ This paragraph does not apply to an activity that is necessary for utilization of the transit facility by a bicyclist, including, but not limited to, an activity that is necessary for parking a bicycle or transporting a bicycle aboard a transit vehicle, if that activity is conducted with the permission of RTA in a manner that does not interfere with the safety of the bicyclist or other patrons of the transit facility.

² This paragraph shall not be interpreted to affect any lawful activities permitted or first amendment rights protected under the laws of this state or applicable federal law, including, but not limited to, laws related to collective bargaining, labor relations, or labor disputes.

³ Loitering is defined as riding the same bus in excess of one continuous trip or remaining on RTA property for more than two successive hours.

Type of Conduct	Transit Vehicles	Passenger Facilities
(11) Extending anything out windows or doors of moving bus.	Prohibited	N/A
(12) Hanging off or swinging from bars or stanchions (except when standing-only conditions apply).	Prohibited	Prohibited
(13) Smoking.	Prohibited	Prohibited
(14) Littering.	Prohibited	Prohibited
(15) Using sound-producing equipment (use of headphones is permissible if others cannot hear the output).	Prohibited	Prohibited
(16) Spitting, urinating or defecating ⁴ ; or creating unsanitary conditions through presence of blood, urine, feces, vomit, or other bodily fluids. (MAJOR INFRACTION)	Prohibited	Prohibited
(17) Carrying an explosive or acid, flammable liquid, or toxic or hazardous material in or on RTA property. (MAJOR INFRACTION)	Prohibited	Prohibited
(18) Interfering with the provision of transportation services (i.e., failure to properly board or alight, blocking progress of a transit vehicle, disturbing the driver, etc.).	Prohibited	Prohibited
(19) Willfully disturbing others in or on RTA property by engaging in boisterous or unruly behavior.	Prohibited	Prohibited
(20) Defacing, destroying or otherwise vandalizing transit property or any sign, notices or advertisements thereon. (MAJOR INFRACTION)	Prohibited	Prohibited
(21) Throwing objects at transit RTA property or at persons in or on transit property. (MAJOR INFRACTION)	Prohibited	Prohibited
(22) Failure to pay the appropriate fare or present a valid pass, willfully presenting an invalid pass or transfer, or failure to surrender an invalid pass if demanded by an authorized RTA employee. (MAJOR INFRACTION)	Prohibited	Prohibited

⁴ This paragraph shall not apply to a person who cannot comply with this paragraph as a result of a disability, age, or a medical condition.

Type of Conduct	Transit Vehicles	Passenger Facilities
(23) Misrepresenting oneself as eligible for special or reduced fares or transfers ⁵ . (MAJOR INFRACTION)	Prohibited	Prohibited
(24) Failure to follow lawful direction from an RTA employee.	Prohibited	Prohibited
(25) Bringing onto RTA property odors which unreasonably disturb others or interfere with their use of the RTA system, whether such odors arise from one's person, clothes, articles, accompanying animal or any other source.	Prohibited	Prohibited

ARTICLE V, CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATING CODE OF CONDUCT

In addition to the types of suspendable behavior described above, criminal conduct, including but not limited to, assault, disorderly conduct, and illegal drug use, are prohibited on all RTA property. If any criminal conduct is observed, RTA will contact the appropriate law enforcement department within the jurisdiction in which the offense has occurred.

In addition to civil and criminal penalties, violators of the RTA Code of Conduct policies and/or any other applicable laws may be subject to immediate denial of RTA service and possible suspension of RTA service in the future as described in Table 2 below. Additionally, RTA reserves the right to seek an immediate restraining order against accused violators deemed by the RTA Executive Director to pose a legitimate threat to the safety or welfare of RTA staff or riders.

Immediate denial suspension of RTA service may be effected by a law enforcement officer or any authorized RTA employee. Failure to comply with denial of service or suspension of service shall be grounds for criminal trespass prosecution. For initial minor infractions, patrons of RTA service who have been denied or removed from service or suspended must petition (either verbally or in writing) to the RTA Operations Manager in order to resume transit service privileges. The RTA Operations Manager will respond in writing (using US Postal Service Certified Mail) within five business days with details on the date riding privileges will be reinstated.

For repeat or major offenders, the RTA Operations Manager shall issue a written notice stating the cause and duration of the suspension and the process for requesting review. Suspension shall be in effect upon issuance of the notice and shall remain in effect during any review process.

⁵ In the event that an eligible discount ticket user fare rider is not in possession of acceptable proof at the time of request, any suspension of service shall be held postponed for a period of 72 hours to allow the user to produce acceptable proof to the RTA Operations Manager. If the proof is provided, the suspension shall be voided. If the proof is not produced within that time period, the suspension will be enforced.

Within ten business days after issuance of a service suspension notice, the offender may deliver to the RTA Operations Manager a written request for review of the suspension and an opportunity to present reasons for reconsideration of the suspension. Within ten business days after receiving a request for review, the RTA Executive Director shall set a telephonic or in-person hearing to review the RTA Operations Manager's decision with the **accused offender**. The hearing shall be held within ten business days following the request for a hearing. The RTA Executive Director then shall decide to affirm or reverse the suspension within ten days following the public hearing. The RTA Executive Director's decision shall be final.

Table 2 – Disciplinary Actions

Type	Disciplinary Action	Disciplinary Review Process to Return Service Privileges
(1) 1st Infraction (Minor)	Immediate denial of service	Petition RTA Operations Manager
(2) 2nd Infraction (Minor)	Same as (1), plus: suspension of service privileges for a period not to exceed seven days	Petition RTA Operations Manager
(3) 3rd Infraction (Minor) or 1st Infraction (Major)	Same as (1), plus: suspension of service privileges for no less than seven days and no longer than 30 days	Public Hearing by RTA Executive Director after disciplinary process
(4) 4 th or greater Infraction (Minor), or 2nd or greater Infraction (Major), or criminal behavior	Same as (1), plus: suspension of service privileges for 180 calendar days	Public Hearing by Executive Director after disciplinary process

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM:	B-2
TOPIC:	Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 Budget Assumptions
ACTION:	Approve Budget Assumptions
PRESENTED BY:	Geoff Straw
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:	Approve Budget Assumptions to enable staff to begin development of FY14 and FY15 Operating Budget

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The following report outlines staff's budget assumptions recommendation for RTA's Fiscal Year 2013-14 and 2014-15 Operating Budget, and it is the first step in the development of our operating budget and operating program. It should be noted that RTA is developing a two-year operating budget and five-year capital budget. Upon the Board's guidance and approval of these assumptions, staff will prepare a detailed report along with preliminary budget numbers for presentation to the Executive Committee at their April 10th meeting prior to the final draft budget presentation to the Board in May.

Objectives

- Maintain service levels and hours of service that meet the demand of our customers and communities through the effective and efficient delivery of RTA Fixed Route, Runabout, Dial-a-Ride and Trolley services.
- Increase our reserves for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 budget cycle.
- Continue to work with the SLOCOG efficiencies committee in evaluating region-wide service efficiencies.
- Evaluate options and provide analysis on the 5-year capital improvement program and methods to fund these needs.
- Address overcrowding on fixed route runs during peak travel periods.
- Address increasing demand on Runabout service.
- Project the impacts of North County Consolidated Services for both fiscal years.
- Successfully re-negotiate a new Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 986 (current CBA expires January 31, 2014).

Revenue

- SLOCOG has projected a decline in State Transit Assistance (STA) funding for FY13-14 in comparison to FY12-13. Once those targets are more firmly

established, RTA will assume a proportional decrease in overall STA funding in our FY13-14 budget, and will budget the same amount for FY14-15.

- Fare revenue is projected to be \$1,100,000 (farebox and pass sales revenue only) for FY13-14. We are not recommending a fare program change for FY13-14, although we may have to consider changes in FY14-15 if funding shortfalls emerge or farebox recovery projections fall short. Based on recent farebox revenue trends, staff expects annual farebox revenues to total \$1,115,000 for FY14-15 (a ~5% increase over FY13-14). If the release of SLOCOG TDA funding estimates in April-May suggests that other fare changes should be instituted, staff will make that presentation at a future Board meeting.
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307, 5311 and 5339 operating and capital funding for both fiscal years shall remain consistent with FY12-13 levels. Should authorizations for federal transportation programs under MAP-21 or its successor legislation in FY14-15 increase or decrease for any of these programs, staff would adjust these assumptions accordingly.
- FTA Section 5307 operating funding from the City of Santa Maria for Route 10 will be budgeted at \$200,000 for both fiscal years, which is consistent with FY12-13 levels.
- FY12-13 LTF revenue was budgeted at \$3,323,717, and SLOCOG has projected a 12 to 15% increase in FY13-14 over FY12-13 levels. Once the FY13-14 targets are further refined, RTA will assume a proportional increase in overall LTF funding in our FY13-14 budget and a similar increase in the FY14-15 budget. Should there be a budget shortfall due to the loss of funding in either fiscal year, staff would evaluate and make appropriate recommendations on a potential budget amendment.
- Staff will evaluate alternatives to address reserves during the next several months and present a draft Reserve Policy to the Board in FY13-14.
- Staff will continue to explore new revenue resources at the federal, state, and local levels.

Expenses

- Service levels, number of revenue service hours, miles and span of service for RTA fixed route services will be budgeted at current levels for FY13-14.
- Runabout service hours and miles are expected to increase slightly to address increasing demand.
- Should staff be unable to secure adequate funding to operate projected fixed route and Runabout service levels, a reduction of service would be proposed and/or a potential increase in LTF funding would be requested for the Board's consideration.
- Detailed miles/hours and span of service for each route and Runabout will be provided with the draft budget. In addition, detailed miles/hours and span of service will be provided separately for SLO County Services (both fiscal years) and North County Consolidated Services (FY14-15 only).
- Staff will use the 2012-14 RTA Strategic Business Plan, the 2010 Fixed Route Performance Standards, the 2012-15 RTA Service Improvement Program, as well as the findings from the 2010 Short Range Transit Plan, to evaluate potential

efficiencies and with Board concurrence implement efficiencies during the course of the two fiscal years.

- Fuel consumption and price will be budgeted conservatively; diesel fuel will be budgeted at \$4.25 per gallon.
- CalTIP liability premiums will be increased 10% annually.
- Workers Compensation premiums are projected to increase 20%, with the realization that workers compensation is especially challenging this year for almost everyone. Staff will be working with our broker on this in an effort to obtain a better number prior to April. We have also established an employee committee that has evaluated work comp injuries and has initiated a proactive program to address the number of claims and severity of the claims that we have had during the last year. It is expected that this effort will hasten the return of employees back to work following lost-time work-related injuries.
- For FY13-14, the number of budgeted positions will slightly increase in comparison to FY12-13 to address deficiencies in data collection, operations oversight, and bus stop maintenance, as well as to address increasing Runabout demand. However should revenue projections in April indicate that FY13-14 revenue is down, there will be a requisite reduction in the number of FTE's based upon projected revenue.
- For FY14-15, it is anticipated that the number of budgeted positions will increase as part of the North County Consolidated Services. It should be noted that the marginal costs and revenues of the consolidation will be treated in the budget the same way that SLO County services are depicted: as a separate and distinct column.
- Staff is still researching the anticipated impacts of the Affordable Care Act on both the number of employees and the costs of per-employee healthcare costs. For budget-making purposes, staff is assuming a 10% annual increase for both PERS- and Blue Cross-covered employees for each of the next two fiscal years.
- Based on the current projected funding, a 2% annual Cost of Living (COLA) adjustment will be budgeted for non-union employees; the Collective Bargaining Agreement identifies annual increases based upon longevity for Bus Operators and Mechanics. Employees within the salary range for their position will be eligible for a step merit increase subject to performance assessments.
- RTA will work with SLOCOG staff and members of the Regional Efficiencies Committees to evaluate efficiencies in the provision of service throughout the county.
- Assume driver and mechanic annual wage increases similar to those in the current CBA for the next two fiscal years.

Proposed Budget Calendar

February 13 Detailed budget assumptions and revenue forecast to Executive Committee.

March 6 Obtain Board concurrence on proposed draft budget assumptions.

- March 6 Provide mid-year FY12 Budget data to Board with any recommended budget amendment.
- March 31 Based on feedback from Executive Committee draft FY13 Budget Draft complete.
- April 10 Draft FY13 Budget presentation to Executive Committee.
- April 17 Formal FY13 Budget presentation to RTAC.
- May 1 Final Board Budget presentation. Board adoption of FY13 Budget.
- Nov. 6 Present draft Reserve Policy to Board.

Staff Recommendation

Approve the budget assumptions and budget calendar so that a detailed work plan and budget may be developed.

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: B-3

TOPIC: Stipend for RTA Board & RTAC Members

PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Support implementation for FY13-14

RTAC RECOMMENDATION: Support

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

On April 7, 2007, the SLOCOG Board adopted a stipend program for its Board members who are city delegates attending SLOCOG meetings. County Board of Supervisor members were not included in the program, since they are already paid a salary as part of their elected position, and their offices are located at the primary SLOCOG Board meeting venue. Under SLOCOG's stipend program, all city delegates are paid \$100 for attendance at each SLOCOG Board meeting and an additional \$50 is paid to city delegates for each Executive Committee meeting attended. Those rates were developed following a review of 32 planning agencies in the state. See the attached two pages for details on the SLOCOG stipend program.

Staff understands that RTA Board members devote a lot of time studying issues presented to each member, and that the members incur ancillary costs that might not be reimbursed by their respective jurisdiction – particularly those members that must travel a significant number of miles to attend RTA meetings in San Luis Obispo. As such, staff is recommending that the RTA Board consider implementing a stipend policy that mirrors the SLOCOG stipend policy. In those cases where a joint RTA-SLOCOG Board meeting is conducted, RTA and SLOCOG would equally share in the stipend cost.

In addition, staff welcomes input from all community members on the services we provide. To encourage Board members and RTAC members to ride RTA services, staff is also proposing that all Board members, as well as RTAC members in good standing¹, be provided unlimited access on RTA fixed-route services. In return, staff would seek continual feedback about RTA services from RTA Board members and RTAC members that ride our buses.

It should be noted that the stipend program would be processed through RTA's payroll system, and that the stipend would count as taxable income for each participating member. It should also be noted that the price of RTA Regional Passes is currently

¹ As indicated in the RTAC By-Laws, RTA staff will notify the appointing agency within 30 days in the event of three consecutive absences by its representative. If an RTAC member misses three consecutive RTAC meetings, their unlimited access privileges would be revoked.

below the \$240 per month amount identified as a Section 132(f)(2)(A) Qualified Transportation Fringe Benefit. As such, this benefit can be provided without an impact to each participating Board and RTAC member's personal income.

Staff Recommendation

Review, discuss and provide direction for the budget and RTA policy.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE:	April 4, 2007
SUBJECT:	SLOCOG Meeting Stipend

SUMMARY

At the December SLOCOG Board meeting a discussion ensued regarding the potential for a stipend for the Board members who are city delegates attending SLOCOG meetings (Supervisors are paid a salary). The Board directed staff to return with information from other similar agencies regarding their respective practices relative to stipends.

The attached Table shows the results of our survey of other regional agencies in the state regarding their stipend policies. The information is for the Board to consider in their deliberation of the issue.

RECOMMENDATION

Support providing a STIPEND of \$100 per SLOCOG Board meeting and an additional \$50 per Executive Committee meeting.

Staff: Review, discuss and provide direction for the budget and SLOCOG policy.

DISCUSSION

See attached Table regarding various approaches taken by other Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, Councils of Governments, etc

Agency	Stipend status
Amador County Transportation Commission - (ACTC)	\$100/mtg
Association of Bay Area Governments - (ABAG)	\$100/mtg by Board
Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments - (AMBAG)	\$50 mtg/- 10 mtg/yr - max \$500
San Benito County Council of Governments - (SBCOG)	\$100/mtg - 12 mtgs + special mtgs. No cap
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission - (SCCRTC)	\$50/mtg;\$50/committee mtg cap 100/mo
Transportation Agency for Monterey County - (TAMC)	none mileage reimb upon req only
Butte County Association of Governments - (BCAG)	none
Calaveras Council of Governments - (CCAG)	\$50/mtg - 10 mtgs a year
Contra Costa Transportation Authority - (CCTA)	\$100/mtg- (max \$400/mo)
El Dorado County Transportation Commission - (EDCTC)	none
Council of Fresno County Governments - (Fresno COG)	\$75/mtg-cog \$25/mtg-rural transit
Humboldt County Association of Governments - (HCAC)	none
Kern Council of Governments - (KCOG)	\$25/mtg (max 2/mo)
Kings County Association of Governments - (KCAG)	none
Madera County Transportation Commission - (MCTC)	none
Mendocino Council of Governments - (MCOG)	none
Merced County Association of Governments - (MCAC)	none
Orange County Transportation Authority - (OCTA)	\$100/mtg: 22 bd mtg/yr max \$500/mo-if 2 mtgs/day
Placer County Transportation Planning Agency - (PCTPA)	\$100/mtg (average 10/yr) with mileage reimb not to supervisors
Riverside County Transportation Commission - (RCTC)	\$100 mtg- cap \$400/mo 12 mtg/yr
Sacramento Area Council of Governments - (SACOG)	\$100/mtg (2 mtg a mo)-mileage if not reimb by jurisdiction
San Bernardino Associated Governments - (SANBAG)	\$100/mtg-12 mtg/mo \$100/mtg-can't get more than 1 reimb per day max \$400/mo
San Diego Association of Governments - (SANDAG)	\$150/mtg- 2 mtg/mo and 100/mtg com mtgs 2/mo chair - \$500/mo; 2 vice chairs - \$250/mo cap 6 mtg/mo
San Joaquin Council of Governments - (SJCOG)	none
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments - (SLOCOG)	none
Santa Barbara County Association of Governments - (SBCAG)	\$100/mtg & special mtgs 12 reg mtgs/yr
Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency - (SCRTPA)	uses a plan.com (5 members) 75/mtg-mileage reimb to & from meetings no cap
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)	\$120-mo-+ mileage reimb (Caltran rate) cap 6 mtg/mo \$70/mo task force mtgs-(cannot receive both reimb in one day)
Stanislaus Council of Governments - (StanCOG)	none
Tulare County Association of Governments - (TCAG)	none
Ventura County Transportation Commission - (VCTC)	\$100/mtg cap 200/mo
Western Riverside Council of Governments - (WRCOG)	Exec Com (18 members) only mtg paid \$150/mo - 10 months
IRS ruling: stipends processed thru payroll (taxed)	



San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority

Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes 12/12/2012

C-1

Members Present: Fred Strong, President
Adam Hill, Vice President

Members Absent: Bruce Gibson, Past President

Staff Present: Geoff Straw, Executive Director
Anna Mafort-Lacy, Administrative Assistant
Tim McNulty, County Legal Counsel

Also Present: Eric Greening
Ronald De Carli, SLOCOG
Pete Rodgers, SLOCOG
Aida Nicklin, SLOCOG
Kate Chase

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

President Fred Strong called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Silent Roll Call was taken and a quorum was present.

2. Public Comments:

Mr. Eric Greening, Atascadero, said he recently rode the southbound Route 9 departing Paso Robles at 8:15 a.m., and it was full of standees. He said this is getting to be a chronic issue, particularly when smaller buses are used as they have fewer seats. He thought there were 7 standing by the time the bus arrived at the Bordeaux apartments in South Atascadero, and 10-12 by Santa Margarita. **President Strong** asked if anyone was left behind. **Mr. Greening** said no. Passengers pack on the bus.

President Strong closed public comment.

3. Information Items

A. Information Items:

A-1 Executive Director's Report

Mr. Geoff Straw presented a “cheat sheet” outline of important items that will be discussed at the January Board meeting. Operations will present five performance standards for service quality and efficiency. This is the inaugural report and will be presented quarterly on an ongoing basis.

Staff received three minivans and one minibus earlier this month. Maintenance is working to get these ready for service. He said the engine failed in the bus leased from Livermore-Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA). The Detroit Diesel engines are problematic in these 2003 models. It will cost about \$8,000 to rebuild it.

Mr. Straw discussed the Runabout ADA eligibility recertification, which staff will present to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) in January and to the Board at a subsequent meeting. The Cambria Trolley had about 500 passengers on the December 6 Hospitality Night event. This was a record. The trolley carried 1,800 during the entire summer service.

The Joint Powers Authority (JPA) amendment was completed by the City of San Luis Obispo. It is on the Pismo Beach City Council agenda for December 18, San Luis Obispo County for January 8 and the rest are in process.

Staff is building a two-year operating and five-year capital budget plan and will incorporate this into what the Board will consider at the May meeting. This is something some jurisdictions have requested—particularly the City of San Luis Obispo. He briefly discussed the Board stipend implemented by the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG). He talked about different options for Board and committee members, such as special passes or per-meeting stipends. The committee discussed whether or not the Board of Supervisors should be included with the city representatives in the compensation structure.

Mr. Straw said staff continues to work with the landlord regarding facilities needs, as well as the County Real Estate Services to help appraise the current location and develop some pricing options for extending the lease.

Mr. Straw concluded the Executive Directors report.

President Strong opened public comment.

Mr. Greening asked if the January meeting on the North County Transit Plan was going to be public. **President Strong** said these are briefing meetings so that he and his staff in Paso Robles are on the same page.

President Strong closed public comment.

A-2 Executive Director's annual performance evaluation

Mr. Timothy McNulty, County Council, announced there will be a closed session agenda item at the January Board meeting to discuss the Executive Director's annual reviews. Evaluation forms were sent to all members of the Board as well as Geoff's staff and they are already starting to come back. The data will be compiled and presented in closed session.

President Strong opened public comment.

President Strong closed public comment.

4. Action Items

B-1 RTA Passenger Code of Conduct Policy

Mr. Straw reviewed the passenger policy, which is similar to that of SLO Transit and addresses behavior issues on the buses. Major infractions occasionally occur and staff does not currently have anything in place to deny service beyond the day the behavior occurred. Staff will give violators a chance to appeal adverse decisions. He said there are a handful of passengers who are repeat offenders. Presently, all we can do is use the penal code to go after offenders.

The committee discussed the process for handling violators and the appeals process.

President Strong opened public comment.

Mr. Greening agreed drivers should be protected from dangerous behavior and wished area bars could do something besides tell people to take a bus. He pointed to number 10, "using transit properties for the purpose of sleeping." He said one of the benefits of taking transit is the opportunity to get some extra rest. He asked for clarification and stressed concerns about selective enforcement if someone happens to fall asleep. He pointed to some disability concerns, such as narcolepsy. He also inquired about the "odors" issues and asked about the threshold of what is considered "bothersome". He thought there may be some push-back at the public hearings. **Mr. Ron DeCarli**, SLOCOG, gave an example of one rider who consistently spreads out, taking two seats, which doesn't allow for someone to sit down while there are standees. **Mr. Straw** said it is nice for commuters to be able to nap

while travelling, and they can easily do so by setting their watch or phone alarm. He was more concerned about capacity issues. This gives the drivers some leverage to inform a rider of inappropriate behavior. **Mr. Greening** agreed, saying the main point is “failure to yield an available seat” when needed. **President Strong** interjected there should be a limitation of no more than one bus trip. **Mr. Pete Rodgers**, SLOCOG, inquired about the urgency of approving this passenger code of conduct. He suggested we tentatively adopt it and then run it though RTAC in January. If the policy needs to be fine-tuned, those changes could be brought back to the Board.

Further discussion ensued about what is considered a noxious odor and how it is determined to be excessive. **Vice President Hill** used the library as an example of how communities pass odor restrictions. **President Strong** expressed concern about service animal odors. He then suggested creating a personnel policy manual that perhaps could be accessed by the public and showed this odor policy was being acted upon judiciously.

President Strong closed public comment.

Vice President Hill moved to approve the Action Agenda. **President Strong** seconded, and the motion carried on a voice vote.

5. Consent Agenda Items

C-1 RTAC Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2012

C-2 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 10/17/12

Vice President Hill moved to approve the Consent Agenda. **President Strong** seconded, and the motion carried on a voice vote.

6. Agenda Review:

Mr. Straw said he would like bring back the meeting stipend for local jurisdictions with the next fiscal year budget review.

President Strong said he would like to have the RTA/SLOCOG joint agenda sent out as one document instead of two. The committee discussed how this could most effectively be done.

7. **Closed Session Items:**

D-1 NONE

8. **Adjournment:** **President Strong** adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Acknowledged by,

Anna Mafort-Lacy
Administrative Assistant

Fred Strong
RTA President

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2013

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

TONY FERRARA, CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE
BRUCE GIBSON, SECOND DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
SHELLY HIGGINBOTHAM, CITY OF PISMO BEACH (*New Vice President*)
JAN MARX, CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
FRANK MECHAM, FIRST DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO (*New President*)
TOM O'MALLEY, CITY OF ATASCADERO
DEBBIE ARNOLD, FIFTH DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
DEBBIE PETERSON, CITY OF GROVER BEACH (arrived at 8:41 a.m.)
FRED STRONG, CITY OF PASO ROBLES (*Past President*)
PAUL TEIXEIRA, FOURTH DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
JAMIE IRONS, CITY OF MORRO BAY

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADAM HILL, THIRD DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO (*Past Vice President*)

STAFF PRESENT:

GEOFF STRAW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TANIA ARNOLD, CFO & DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION
PHIL MOORES, OPERATIONS MANAGER
TIMOTHY MCNULTY, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY COUNSEL

Joint San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) and San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Session

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL: President Fred Strong called the Joint SLOCOG and SLORTA meeting to order at **8:30 a.m.** Roll Call was taken. **President Strong** then asked for a unanimous consent to change the order of the meetings -- after the joint session, instead of adjourning to San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (RTA) meeting, the meeting will adjourn to the SLOCOG Board meeting, and RTA will reconvened after SLOCOG. **The Board concurred.**

2. WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS: President Strong and the SLOCOG/RTA Board welcomed the following new Board Members:

- Supervisor Debbie Arnold, San Luis Obispo County, District 5
- Mayor Jamie Irons, City of Morro Bay
- Mayor Debbie Peterson, City of Grover Beach

3. ADOPTION AND PRESENTATION: **President Strong** acknowledged the presence of outgoing Board Member John P. Shoals. He then called for a motion to adopt the resolution of appreciation. **Board Member Bruce Gibson moved and Board Member Frank Mecham seconded to adopt the Resolution of Appreciation. The motion passed on a voice vote in the absence of Vice President Adam Hill.**

President Strong read and presented the Resolution of Appreciation to **outgoing Board Member John P. Shoals** (former Mayor of the City of Grover Beach), recognizing Mr. Shoals' service and contribution to the San Luis Obispo region. A photo op followed. **SLOCOG Board Members and Executive Directors Ronald De Carli and Geoff Straw** individually thanked **Mr. Shoals** and gave the following comments:

Board Member Mecham: *Mr. Shoals and I have worked together in a number of issues. He is hard working and always has the best interest of the community at heart.*

Board Member Gibson: *Mr. Shoals was SLOCOG/RTA president in 2008 and 2009. He put tremendous energy and effort in straightening out RTA's difficult situation at that time.*

Board Member Jan Howell Marx: *Mr. Shoals has institutional knowledge of SLOCOG and RTA and we hope he continues to keep track of this Board and shows up at our future meetings.*

Mr. Ronald De Carli: *On behalf of SLOCOG staff, we thank Mr. Shoals for all his work. He worked tremendously hard and is a tireless strong advocate representing the SLO region on rail issues and at the California Councils of Governments (CALCOG).*

Board Member Tony Ferrara: *Focusing on Mr. Shoals as a person, we have been community neighbors for quite some time, and as mayor-to-mayor, I have known him as an advocate and a friend. Through that cooperative relationship and partnership, so much was accomplished. I look forward to seeing him around; he is a tremendous asset to this region.*

Board Member Shelly Higginbotham: *It has been a pleasure working with Mr. Shoals. I wish him well in his future endeavors.*

Board Member Debbie Peterson: *I have the privilege of working with Mr. Shoals for the City of Grover Beach, and I am grateful for all that he has done for the City and the region.*

Board Member Debbie Arnold: *I look forward to working with Mr. Shoals in his involvement with all other services in this county.*

Board Member Paul Teixeira: *On behalf of the citizens of South County, thank you Mr. Shoals for all that you have done, we will miss you.*

Board Member Tom O'Malley: *Mr. Shoals' personal commitment to SLOCOG and RTA and this region is greatly appreciated. He is a good role model for this county.*

President Strong: *We appreciate all your service to this county and we hope to see you again sometime in the future.*

Mr. Shoals stated that all the accomplishments were made possible by members of the SLOCOG/RTA Board working together. It is definitely an effort by all. He said it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve with the Board. He thanked the Board for allowing him to serve with them. **Mr. Shoals** brought to attention that **Mr. De Carli** and SLOCOG staff are unequivocally second to none when it comes to putting together staff reports and agendas and in finding solutions to issues affecting this region. He said they are the best he has seen in his 25 years of service. Same also goes to **Mr. Geoff Straw** and RTA staff. In closing, **Mr. Shoals** thanked the Board and staff for the time they served the communities in this county, noting that he will stay involved.

President Strong opened the public comment period.

Mr. Bud Hank Newman, Atascadero, spoke about following up on a study about raising bus driver salaries. He noted he would be forwarding to the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Executive Director the letter responses he received from County Supervisors' office, the Teamsters (Drivers Union), National Labor Relations Board, and former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The following individuals spoke from the public about their concerns regarding Caltrans' chip sealing of the 25 miles of Highway 1 north of Cambria (which they said left the road unsafe not only for bicyclists but also for motorists):

- **Dallam Oliver- Lee**, Arroyo Grande
- **Robert Davis**, Morro Bay, President of the San Luis Obispo (SLO) Bicycle Club, member of the County Bicycle Advisory Committee, and a member and past chair person of the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).
- **Tom Parsons**, Cambria, member of SLO Bicycle Club
- **Sharon Evans**, Cambria
- **Art Chapman**, Cambria
- **Geoffrey Brown**, Templeton, Adventure Cycling
- **Jim Murray**, Los Osos
- **John Flaherty**, Los Osos
- **Dan Rivoire**, San Luis Obispo, Executive Director of the San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition
- **Ken Price**, Arroyo Grande

Some of the public comments received from the above individuals:

- Caltrans made a horrible mistake by chip sealing the 25 miles of an *All American Highway*, leaving an oily, rocky, bumpy road that is unsafe. Caltrans needs to recognize the problem and we are here today to ask the SLOCOG Board's help.
- We collected some of the rocks and placed them in bags (approximately nine bags were distributed to the Board). The rough condition of that stretch of Highway 1 has caused bike accidents, car windshields cracked from flying rocks, and bikers hit by rocks from passing cars. If this problem continues, there will be impacts on fund raising cycling events and tourism.
- Caltrans said the chip sealing project was done according to specifications; however, they used loose and large aggregate, which do not smooth out overtime.
- This problem also impacts the economy. The travel industry alone has helped create 15K jobs last year. Bicycle tours, classic cars and motorcycle groups drive north every year using this highway. We hope the Board will seriously consider encouraging Caltrans to improve that road.
- Adventure Cycling is a bicycle travel organization with 45,000 members in the U.S. Its mission aside from providing bicycling tours is to research and produce cycling maps of safety/bicycling routes. Adventure Cycling has written a letter to Caltrans on this problem and bicyclists have gathered thousands of signatures advocating Caltrans fix the problem.
- The charity events contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to charities and a boost to the income of hotels. The word is spreading about this problem and if it continues, the community will lose donations.
- Some of the cyclists that rode on that stretch of highway over the holidays indicated they had the most unpleasant ride and will avoid riding on that road again.
- Outdoor recreation is important. The SLO County Bicycle Coalition contributes to community causes, non-profit organizations as well as tourism. The Coalition would like

to discuss with Caltrans the specifications and details of the chip seal project to see how it can be fixed.

- That stretch of Highway 1 is one of the most beautiful spots in the County, Caltrans needs to rectify this problem soon.

Mr. Tom Dawson, San Luis Obispo, cautioned the Board about any involvement with Agenda 21 and/or International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), an international non-government organization created by the United Nations. He encouraged everyone to do some research and read what Agenda 21 and ICLEI do in other countries.

There being no further comments, the public comment period was closed.

Mr. Larry Newland, Caltrans District 5 Project Manager, Planning and Local Assistance, noted that the chip sealing issue has come up in other areas and is currently being discussed in Sacramento. He noted that Caltrans will immediately fix the entrance to the San Simeon Park and the portion near Ragged Point. Sweeping will be increased and potholes fixed. He indicated that Caltrans has heard the concerns raised and that they are not done talking about it.

During the extensive discussion that ensued, Board members noted they are familiar with that stretch of highway; some of them have ridden their bikes there and have experienced the rough road. It needs to be fixed in a way that is more conducive to bicyclists and safe for bicyclists and motorists. The Board stressed the need for Caltrans to affirm to the public that this type of problem will not happen again to other projects. If this is the new standard, will there be other potential areas? Are there any other future road projects on that stretch of Highway 1? The Board and the public need to understand the projects and each project should have enough public input upfront and some analysis on cost benefits, impact as well as internal cost benefits. This problem should serve as a “lesson learned.” In future projects, what surfacing is applied must be examined thoroughly. It comes down to revisiting the specifications. Caltrans also needs to look at the consequences of using this kind of chip seal.

Mr. Newland indicated he is not aware of any other chip sealing project and he does not have in his position information about the schedule of future projects.

President Strong thanked everyone for their comments. He then recessed the joint meeting at 9:34 a.m. to allow time for public members from the bicycling community to leave. The meeting was reconvened at 9:40 a.m.

4. SLOCOG AND SLORTA BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

a. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: **President Strong** called for nominations for SLOCOG/RTA Board President, noting that SLOCOG has an accepted policy of rotating officers from north to south of the county.

Board Member O'Malley moved a motion nominating Board Member Frank Mecham for President. **Board Member Higginbotham** seconded.

Board Member Gibson moved a motion nominating Vice President Adam Hill for President. **Board Member Teixeira** seconded.

President Strong called for any public comments.

Public Comments: **Mr. Mike Brown**, Government Affairs Director of the Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business (COLAB), encouraged the Board to elect somebody else other than Vice President Adam Hill regardless of the accepted policy of rotation. Mr. Brown and COLAB deemed Mr. Hill not suitable to do the job either by temperament or by his understanding of the American Economic System.

Also speaking from the public were **Ms. Andrea Seastrand** (Grover Beach), **Ms. Laura Mordaunt** (SLO County), and **Mr. Tom Dawson** (San Luis Obispo). They too opposed electing Mr. Hill for president, alluding to the issue of bullying. They asked the Board to consider Board Member Mecham for president and not become an enabler of bullying.

A discussion followed, during which a number of Board members expressed support for Board Member Mecham for president, noting that public perception matters and SLOCOG/RTA Board members are stewards of public trust; hence, the vote for someone less contentious. **Board Member Marx** noted she has some concerns about some recent disparaging statements made by Mr. Hill but at the same time, she believes Mr. Hill is dedicated and can do the job, and rotation is important. **President Strong** noted he encountered no problem having served with Vice President Hill on the Executive Committee, and he is also fully confident in Board Member Mecham.

President Strong opened the Vice President position for nominations. **Board Member Mecham** moved and **Board Member O'Malley** seconded to nominate Board Member Shelly

Higginbotham for Vice President. **Board Member Gibson** moved and **Board Member Marx** seconded to nominate Board Member Jan Howell Marx for Vice President.

Prior to the final actions below, **Board Member Marx** pointed out that in researching the history of officer rotation for the SLOCOG/RTA Board, she found that the last time a president from the City of SLO was elected was back in year 2000.

Final Action – Election of President: **Board Member O’Malley** moved a motion nominating Board Member Frank Mecham for President. **Board Member Higginbotham** seconded, and the motion carried on a roll call vote -- nine (9) Board members voted “yes” (Arnold, Ferrara, Higginbotham, Irons, Mecham, O’Malley, Peterson, Strong, and Teixeira) and two (2) voted “no” (Gibson and Marx), with Past Vice President Hill absent.

Board Member Gibson withdrew his nomination of Vice President Adam Hill for President.

Final Action – Election of Vice President: **Newly Elected President Mecham** moved a motion nominating Board Member Shelly Higginbotham for Vice President. **Board Member O’Malley** seconded, and the motion carried on a roll call vote -- nine (9) Board members voted “yes” (Arnold, Ferrara, Higginbotham, Irons, Mecham, O’Malley, Peterson, Strong, and Teixeira) and two (2) voted “no” (Gibson and Marx), with Past Vice President Hill absent.

The nomination of Board Member Jan Howell Marx for Vice President was withdrawn by **Board Member Gibson**.

b. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: The newly elected officers and the past president will now serve as the new members of the Executive Committee: **President Frank Mecham, Vice President Shelly Higginbotham, and Past President Fred Strong.**

5. ADJOURN TO SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (SLORTA) BOARD MEETING: *Per announcement at the beginning of the Joint SLOCOG and RTA Board meeting, the sequence was reversed, the joint meeting was adjourned to SLOCOG and the RTA meeting reconvened following the SLOCOG Board meeting.*

6. RECONVENE THE SLOCOG BOARD MEETING: *Per announcement at the beginning of the Joint SLOCOG and RTA Board meeting, the sequence was reversed, the joint meeting was adjourned to SLOCOG and the RTA meeting reconvened following the SLOCOG Board meeting.*

During the SLOCOG interagency assignments (SLOCOG Board meeting), **Mr. Tim McNulty**, Legal Counsel, advised the Board to officially adjourn the joint meeting. **Past President Fred Strong** concurred and asked **President Mecham** if he would like to take over and preside the meeting. **President Mecham** indicated he would start as chair in the next meeting and **Past President Strong** can continue. **Past President Strong** adjourned the Joint SLOCOG and RTA Board meeting to SLOCOG and recessed the RTA Board meeting at 10:06 a.m.

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

ADJOURN TO RTA BOARD MEETING: The SLOCOG Session adjourned to RTA meeting at 10:20 a.m.

A. INFORMATION AGENDA:

A-1 Mr. Geoff Straw said staff took delivery of four new service vehicles in December. The leased bus suffered an engine failure. Brumit of Santa Maria rebuilt the engine and the bus now operates reliably.

Staff continues to work closely with SLOCOG on a number of projects, such as the North County Transit Plan. This plan looks at potentially consolidating Atascadero, Paso Robles and RTA Route 9 services. The Cambria trolley carried 500 riders during a special service for Hospitality Night in December. This equals about 25% of the total ridership during summer months. Staff is also beginning to plan trolley service for next summer.

Staff is in the final planning stages for a Summer Beach Shuttle between Paso Robles and Atascadero to Morro Bay and Cayucos via highway 41. This service will likely provide three round trips per day during the summer months.

The Amgen tour will have a stage ending in Avila Beach on May 16. Staff will ask the Board today to allow RTA to submit an application to the FTA to run charter service for a handful of events.

The Joint Powers Agreement amendment is still working through the jurisdictions, with two cities left to review and approve. Staff has 30 days to submit the request from the date the last city adopts the amendment.

The State adopted pension reform effective January 1. Staff continues to review these changes to see how it may impact RTA. **Mr. Straw** said so few RTA staff members have PERS that it probably won't have much effect on the bottom line. The Affordable Care Act may have a significant impact when it goes into effect on January 1, 2014.

Staff is working on a two-year operating and five-year capital budget set to commence July 1. This will allow stakeholders to get the lay of the land in terms of needs. Budget assumptions will be presented at the March Board meeting. As part of these assumptions, staff will bring the stipend issue back to the Board. RTA will likely emulate how SLOCOG compensates its Board members. Staff is also looking at options for the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) members, most likely in the form of regional bus passes.

Financials are at about 42% of budget through November 2012. Ridership remains high. The service remains dependable and improving all the time. Runabout ridership is up 10% year-to-date over last year. The fully-allocated subsidy cost on Runabout is more than \$60 per passenger trip.

Staff initially worked with County Real Estate Services in order to try and locate an alternative facilities site. Unfortunately they could not continue to assist us. RTA is under contract to lease the current facility through 2017. The bank note used to fund tenant improvements runs through 2021. We are trying to streamline these on our existing lease. Staff reached out to private real estate service providers to better determine what the current commercial real estate market is doing, the current value of the existing facility, as well as to get a solid idea of a realistic cost-per-square-foot for a potential purchase.

Fuel and maintenance parts, supplies and materials costs are somewhat inflated because some expenses have not yet been charged back to South County Area Transit.

The overall fare box recovery ratio is at 20.27%, and fixed route is at 29.8%. Ridership is at about 23 passengers per hour.

Mr. Straw concluded his Executive Director's report.

Past President Strong opened to Board comment.

Board Member Jamie Irons observed Cayucos is a destination for the Summer Beach Shuttle service and inquired if Morro Bay would also be included in the schedule. **Mr. Straw** said this was considered but staff was concerned it would take too much time traveling in the opposite direction to Morro Bay Park. Staff is working to line up the service the Route 15 in both directions. The plans are not final. **Board Member Irons** said he is interested in learning about

the feasibility of providing the beach shuttle into Morro Bay. **Mr. Straw** said he would reach to **Ms. Janeen Burlingame** to ensure staff is meeting local needs.

Past President Strong opened public comment.

Past President Strong closed public comment.

Past President Strong closed Board comment.

A-2 Service Quality & Efficiency Quarterly Report: **Mr. Straw** said this is one of many performance measures on the Strategic Business Plan and will be presented by **Mr. Phil Moores**.

Mr. Moores began by discussing RTA fixed route productivity, which is up over previous years. He reviewed the average cost and passengers per hour. He next reviewed service delivery and noted the service has been very reliable over the last six months, missing two trips out of nearly 19,000 between July 1 and December 31, 2012. The goal for this measure is 99%. This performance measure remains high largely due to bus operator retention and shift coverage.

The current goal for fixed route on-time performance is 90%. Runabout on-time performance is also set at 90%. Although this measure has dipped slightly in recent months—largely due to demand on the service—actual performance remains well above the goal levels.

Mr. Moores concluded his report.

Past President Strong opened to Board comment.

Past President Strong opened public comment.

Past President Strong closed public comment.

Past President Strong closed Board comment.

A-3 RTA Passenger Code of Conduct Policy

Mr. Straw said state laws allow transit agencies to deny service to someone who violates stated codes of conduct via Penal Code 640. RTA has a few repeat offenders. Staff reached out to other agencies around the region and state. This is the first official review of the policy, and it will be brought back to the Board at the March meeting for approval. This policy is based on the policy SLO Transit adopted in 2000. There are 25 types of conduct identified.

Past President Strong opened to Board comment.

President-elect Mecham asked if staff has experienced situations like the ones outlined in the policy. **Mr. Straw** answered that we've had some pretty significant incidents. Staff thought it was important to move this policy forward in order to better protect the drivers. **President-elect Mecham** inquired what type of assistance may a Bus Operator have and how quickly can they get it. **Mr. Straw** said law enforcement has been very responsive throughout the county. Part of the process is identifying resources available.

Vice President-elect Higginbotham asked if Bus Operators were included in creating this code of conduct. **Mr. Straw** answered that they were involved, as well as the Union and Operations Supervisors.

Board Member Irons said this policy is a great tool to help protect Bus Operators and passengers and enhance the experience to promote good attendance on the buses.

Board Member Arnold asked if the policy would absolve RTA from legal liability from denying people ridership. **Mr. McNulty** said it will not absolve us, but the document will help RTA in resolving issues of liability. There already is a risk management program in place. Most issues don't come to the Board. Mr. Straw noted that in most cases, the Executive Director has the final say and therefore, issues are not presented before the Board.

Past President Strong opened public comment.

Mr. Newman said he approves of this policy. Many people rely upon the service. This helps drivers and passengers keep the buses safe and efficient for the majority.

Past President Strong closed public comment.

Past President Strong closed Board comment.

B. ACTION AGENDA:

B-1 Petition FTA to operate charter service for Amgen Bicycle Race on May 16, 2013 (Receive and Approve):

Mr. Straw briefly reviewed Charter Policy adopted in May 2012. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires public transit agencies to petition to provide services to community-significant events while not unfairly competing against private companies. He discussed the regional significance of the Amgen bicycle tour and asked for Board permission to

seek FTA approval to provide shuttle services into Avila Beach. This is where a leg of the Amgen tour will end.

Past President Strong opened Board comment.

Vice President-elect Higginbotham clarified that RTA would seek reimbursement for providing this service. **Mr. Straw** confirmed this is correct.

Past President Strong opened public comment.

Past President Strong closed public comment.

Past President Strong closed Board comment.

Board Member Gibson moved to approve Agenda Item B-1. **Board Member Ferrara** seconded, and the motion carried on a roll call vote with **Board Member Hill** absent.

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

- C-1 RTAC Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2012 (Approve)
- C-2 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2012 (Approve)
- C-3 FTA Annual Certifications and Assurances (Approve)
- C-4 RTA Board Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2012

Past President Strong opened Board comment.

Past President Strong opened public comment.

Past President Strong closed public comment.

Past President Strong closed Board comment.

President-elect Mecham moved to approve Consent Agenda Items. **Vice President-elect Higginbotham** seconded, and the motion carried on a roll call vote with **Vice Board Member Hill** absent.

D: RTA CLOSED SESSION:

D-1 CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

The RTA Board meeting adjourned to *Closed Session* at 10:52 a.m., and reconvened to Open Session at 11:02 a.m.

D-1-1 Personnel: Executive Director's annual performance evaluation
Government Code, Section 54954-5

OPEN SESSION: Mr. McNulty reported out of Closed Session, noting that the RTA Board met in closed session on Item D-1. The Board did not take any final action; therefore no report is required.

E. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Board Member O'Malley welcomed the new Morro Bay Mayor, **Board Member Irons**, and discussed the great history between the two cities.

Board Member Irons said he looks forward to working with everyone.

Board Member Marx welcomed **Board Members Peterson and Arnold**.

President-elect Mecham thanked **Past President Strong** for his outstanding job during the last year as President of the RTA and SLOCOG Boards.

Board Member Peterson announced Pismo Beach is hosting the Coastal Commission. Area jurisdictions will be getting together for the following morning for public comment with the Coastal Commission to discuss beach front lodging hotel. She invited everyone to come out and lend support, knowing this will impact the entire county. This meeting will be held 8:30 a.m., at the Vets Hall on Bello Street.

F. ADJOURNMENT: **Past President Strong** adjourned the RTA meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Mafort-Lacy
RTA, Administrative Assistant

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: C-3

TOPIC: Resolution Authorizing FTA Section 5311 Funding

ACTION: Approve Resolution

PRESENTED BY: Omar McPherson, Grants Manager

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve Resolution

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Beginning in fiscal year 2003/04, SLOCOG and the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (RTA) agreed to program all federal funding from the FTA 5311 Program to RTA. In exchange, SLOCOG programs a similar amount of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for rural transit operators.

In connection with the exchange program, RTA must submit an annual grant application to the FTA for the 5311 funds. The grant application must include a resolution, approved by the RTA Board, authorizing submittal of the grant application and authorizing the Executive Director to execute and file all assurances and any other documentation required by the FTA.

Once approved, the attached resolutions will become part of the grant application for FTA 5311 funding for the 2013/14 fiscal year.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FTA SECTION 5311 PROJECT OPERATING ASSISTANCE APPLICATION**

RESOLUTION NO. 13-__

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER FTA SECTION 5311 (49 U.S.C. SECTION 5311) WITH CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants to states through the Federal Transit Administration to support operating assistance projects for non-urbanized public transportation systems under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act (**FTA C 9040.1F**); and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has been designated by the Governor of the State of California to administer Section 5311 grants for transportation projects for the general public for the rural transit and intercity bus; and

WHEREAS, *San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority* (RTA) desires to apply for said financial assistance to permit operation of service in San Luis Obispo County; and

WHEREAS, *San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority* has, to the maximum extent feasible, coordinated with other transportation providers and users in the region (including social service agencies).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority does hereby authorize the *Executive Director*, to file and execute applications on behalf of San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority with the Department to aid in the financing of capital/operating assistance projects pursuant to Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act (**FTA C 9040.1F**), as amended.

That *Executive Director* is authorized to execute and file all certification of assurances, contracts or agreements or any other document required by the Department.

That *Executive Director* is authorized to provide additional information as the Department may require in connection with the application for the Section 5311 projects.

That *Executive Director* is authorized to submit and approve request for reimbursement of funds from the Department for the Section 5311 project(s).

Upon motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and on the following roll call, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

The foregoing resolution is hereby passed and adopted by the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority of San Luis Obispo County, State of California, at a regular meeting of said Board of Directors held on the 6th day of March, 2013.

Frank Mecham
President of the RTA Board

ATTEST:

Geoff Straw
Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

By: _____
Timothy McNulty
RTA Counsel

Dated: _____
(Original signature in BLUE ink)

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: C-4

TOPIC: Resolution Authorizing Job Access & Reverse Commute (JARC) Grant Applications

ACTION: Approve Resolution

PRESENTED BY: Omar McPherson, Grants Manager

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve Resolution

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

As part of the SAFETEA-LU reauthorization the FTA Section 5316 Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) program was established to improve access to transportation services to employment and employment related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals and to transport residents of urbanized areas and non-urbanized areas to suburban employment opportunities. Toward this goal, FTA provides financial assistance for transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the transportation needs of eligible low-income individuals in all areas. Another goal is to implement coordination of federally assisted programs and services in order to make the most efficient use of federal resources. **These are funds that Caltrans has left over from SAFETEA-LU and is the last of these funds, since the new MAP21 authorization consolidated FTA Section 5316 (discretionary program) under FTA Sections 5307 and 5311 (formula programs). The formula programs are not funded at the same levels as the prior discretionary program.**

RTA will submit a JARC application for operating and capital funding to continue the North Coast Connector, a fixed route and demand response service providing reverse commute trips from San Luis Obispo to the north coast communities of Morro Bay, Los Osos, Cayucos, Cambria, San Simeon and Hearst Castle. RTA will apply for \$400,000 in FTA Section 5316 funds for operating assistance for the next three years to continue this service.

In addition, RTA will submit a JARC application for the continued reverse commute part of Route 10 that serves the San Luis Obispo to Santa Maria corridor. Specifically, the grant application identifies the portion between Pismo Beach and Santa Maria. This service began in August 2002 under a competitive JARC grant awarded by the FTA to SLOCOG and programmed to RTA. With the JARC grant as seed money and local support from the City of Santa Maria and the County of Santa Barbara, RTA successfully implemented the weekday reverse commute runs; the focus of the new service was on southbound morning peak service from the Five Cities area to Santa Maria, and a northbound evening service from Santa Maria to the Five Cities area. RTA

will also apply for \$400,000 in FTA Section 5316 funds for Operational Assistance for the next cycle to continue servicing the Reverse Commute portion of Route 10.

Once approved, the attached resolution will become part of the grant application for JARC funding for FY13-14 and FT14-15 based on already funded projects.

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 13-____

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER
FTA SECTION 5316 – JOB ACCESS & REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) GRANT
WITH
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants to states through the Federal Transit Administration to support capital and operating assistance projects for public transportation systems under 49 United States Code Section 5316 (Section 5316); and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has been designated by the Governor of the State of California to administer Section 5316 grants for public transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority desires to apply for said financial assistance to continue servicing the Reverse Commute portion of Route 10, from the Five Cities to Santa Maria and visa-versa; and

WHEREAS, San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority desires to apply for said financial operating and capital assistance to continue servicing the Reverse Commute portion of Route 12, trips from San Luis Obispo to the north coast communities of Morro Bay/Los Osos, Cayucos, Cambria, San Simeon and Hearst Castle and visa-versa; and

WHEREAS, the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority has, to the maximum extent feasible, coordinated with other transportation providers and users in the region (including social service agencies).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority does hereby authorize the Executive Director to file and execute applications on behalf of San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority with the Department to aid in the financing of operating or capital assistance projects pursuant to Section 5316.

That the Executive Director is authorized to execute and file all assurances or any other document required by the Department.

That the Executive Director is authorized to provide additional information as the Department may require in connection with the application for the Section 5316 projects.

That the Executive Director is authorized to submit and approve request for reimbursement of funds from the Department for the Section 5316 project.

Upon motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, and on the following roll call, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

The foregoing resolution is hereby passed and adopted by the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority of San Luis Obispo County, State of California, at a regular meeting of said Board of Directors held on the 6th day of March, 2013.

Frank Mecham
President of the RTA Board

ATTEST:

Geoff Straw
Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

Timothy McNulty
County Counsel

By: _____
RTA Legal Counsel

Dated: _____

SAN LUIS OBISPO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 6, 2013

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: C-5

TOPIC: RTAC Appointment

ACTION: Approve

PRESENTED BY: Geoff Straw, Executive Director

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Appointments to RTAC

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

RTA staff has been soliciting applications to fill the vacant seat for a representative of ADA paratransit users and an alternate seat for a representative of fixed route transit users on the Regional Transit Advisory Committee (RTAC). Mr. Mark Dariz submitted an application for the ADA paratransit vacancy and Mr. Todd Katz submitted an application as an alternate for the fixed route vacancy.

Mr. Dariz is currently a member of the Atascadero Planning Commission and would like to be involved in this Committee and to provide insight into the needs of the disabled population. He is a well respected architect in the region, with a keen sense of design as it relates to access for the disabled community.

Mr. Katz is interested in the need for mass and private transportation and infrastructure, and ongoing challenges of mitigating rising fuel costs and improving pollution control. He is also a well qualified user who also services and represents the interests of many diversified organizations in the community.

Staff recommends the Board approve the appointments of Mr. Dariz and Mr. Katz to the Regional Transit Advisory Committee.